AMERICAN FOUNDATION
FOR THE BLIND INC.

15 WEST 16th STREET
NEW YORK, N. Y., 10011

C.1

TALKING BOOK TOPICS

VOL. XIV, NO. 1 JUNE, 1948

Issued Quarterly by the
AMERICAN FOUNDATION *for the* BLIND, Inc.
15 WEST 16th STREET • NEW YORK 11, N. Y.

Entered as second-class matter June 11, 1936, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of August 24, 1912.

HV1571
T
VOL. 14-18, 1948-52
Copy one

Talking Book Topics

VOL. XIV, NO. 1 JUNE, 1948

The American Foundation for the Blind is a national agency the purpose of which is to promote increasingly and uncompromisingly the interests of all the blind throughout the United States, in close cooperation with all local organizations.

TALKING BOOK TOPICS is issued by the Foundation in ink-print, and in Talking Book form, four times a year—in March, June, September, and December. A printed copy is sent to all readers, free of charge, to aid you in requesting titles from your regular distributing library. There is a subscription price of $1 a year for the recorded edition.

If you can afford the yearly subscription price of $1 in order to receive the magazine in recorded form, please tear out the coupon in this issue, have it filled in, and mail it to the Talking Book Department of the American Foundation for the Blind, 15 West 16th Street, New York 11, New York, accompanied by your remittance.

Enclosed find the sum of $1.00 to cover one year's subscription for the recorded edition of TALKING BOOK TOPICS. Please send this magazine to:

SUBSCRIBER'S NAME _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

POSTAL UNIT NO. _____

STATE _____

AUSPICE WILLA!

It is with great pride that we announce in this issue the recording of one of the masterpieces of American literature, DEATH COMES FOR THE ARCHBISHOP by Willa Cather. With the release last year of Miss Cather's A LOST LADY, recorded by the American Printing House, a conspicuous void in the Talking Book Library was at long last closed. For many years Miss Cather had refused to allow any of her books to be recorded and, although the late Alexander Woollcott had interceded and told us on his last visit to our studios that he felt confident of success, the actual honor of breaking down Miss Cather's resistance belongs to Archibald MacLeish. Shortly before her death, Miss Cather gave permission for three of her novels to be recorded as Talking Books. And in a letter to Mr. MacLeish she gave her reason for resisting for so long. Other authors and publishers have occasionally refused us access to their works, but generally through a misunderstanding of the means by which their rights are protected. Miss Cather declined on artistic grounds. As a devotion to artistic principles is a rare thing these days when almost everyone has some axe or other to grind, and as Miss Cather's letter is an excellent statement by a first-rate artist of the essence of Talking Book reading, we reprint it here for the benefit of those who care about such things:

December 11, 1944

Dear Mr. MacLeish:

You have already heard from Alfred Knopf that I am quite willing that you should put three of my books into records for the blind.

I would never have been unwilling to have such records made had I been sure that the recording was done by people

who read simply, as our mothers and grandmothers did when they read aloud to us in our childhood. My refusal was largely the result of a singular coincidence. Some months or weeks before I received your original request, I was dining with an old friend in a little Italian restaurant where the radio was turned on for the evening. Over this radio I heard several chapters from MY ANTONIA read by a young woman who had all the airs and graces of a small town elocutionist. They were quiet chapters from a very quiet book —a mute on the strings. This reader certainly removed the mute, and with all her physical powers she put into the text what was not there.

When a book is read for recording, the reader is not only a collaborator but an interpreter of the writer. It is the reader who decides the tempi and the stresses. He is even able to attempt a personification of the characters, and to make them declamatory where the writer has kept the dialogue casual and low in tone. I am afraid that people who have worked for the radio find it hard to refrain from virtuosity, and I really do not think all books should be read in an elocutionary way.

Very cordially yours,
Willa Cather

NEW TALKING BOOKS

The following Talking Books, recently recorded for the Library of Congress, may now be borrowed from your regular distributing library.

AFB—*American Foundation for the Blind, New York, N. Y.*
APH—*American Printing House for the Blind, Louisville, Kentucky.*

A borrower writes: *Today I returned the Talking Book DAISY KENYON to the library. It was such a filthy story, I did not care to read it or to have people know I read such a type of book. This is not the first time I have had to send back books for the same reason. I know it is not your fault that such books are made available in record form. But I wish you would pass along my feelings about them so that money and time would not be spent for such trash. There are still many good books of a light nature that would be much better than that.*

FICTION

Bekessy, Emery—BARABBAS: A NOVEL OF THE TIME OF JESUS —translated by Richard and Clara Winston *(Prentice-Hall, 1946)*—22 records—read by James Walton APH

Out of the most tremendous drama in history—the Crucifixion—comes this gripping story of Barabbas the Robber, he who stood on the courthouse steps beside the gentle preacher from Galilee while a frenzied mob howled to Pilate, "Release unto us Barabbas!" Who was this man that the Jerusalem crowd chose in preference to Jesus of Nazareth? The Gospels have little to say about the reasons behind this crucial choice, but from the scant facts about those world-shaking days the author has created a stirring novel set in an era not unlike our own that pulsates with a spirit of violence and a kind of desperate hope.

Cather, Willa—Death Comes for the Archbishop *(Knopf, 1927)*—15 records—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

Here we have a story which is in essence part of the history of America. It is the story of two missionary priests who carry the cross "into territories yet unknown and unnamed" in New Mexico and Colorado. Jean, Father Latour, successively bishop and archbishop of Santa Fé for thirty-eight years, is a French aristocrat and scholar. His Indian guides love him for his good manners, for his unostentatious courage, and for the respect with which he listens to their tales of the old region. His companion, Father Vaillant, is a simple, peasant type, with practical faith in God, whose zeal for saving souls gives him no rest. The two devoted friends make long, arduous journeys over their territory of romantic scene and legend. There is no plot, only the life histories of Father Latour and his intrepid vicar, character sketches of the people with whom they come in contact. "It is not a tragic tale," said one critic, "but one full of happiness and triumph; and yet it moves one to tears, by the picture of such goodness and beauty seen through the medium of a faultless art."

Dickens, Charles—Dealings With the Firm of Dombey and Son *(1848)*—68 records—read by Peter French APH

When the story opens Mr. Dombey, the rich, proud, frigid head of the shipping house of Dombey and Son, has just been presented with a son and heir, Paul, and his wife dies. The father's love and hopes are centered in the boy, an odd, delicate, prematurely old child, who is sent to Dr. Blimber's school, under whose strenuous discipline he sickens and dies. Dombey neglects his daughter, Florence, and the estrangement is increased by the death of her brother. Dombey marries again—a proud and penniless young widow, Edith Granger, but his arrogant treatment drives her into relations with his villainous manager, Carker, with whom she flies to France. They are pursued, Carker meets Dombey in a railway station, falls in front of a train, and is killed. The house of Dombey fails; Dombey has lost his fortune, his son, and his wife; his daughter has been driven by ill-treatment to fly from him. Thoroughly humbled, he lives in desolate solitude till Florence returns to him and at last finds the way to his heart.

Franken, Rose—CLAUDIA *(Farrar & Rinehart, 1939)*—15 records—read by James Walton APH

To many people Mr. and Mrs. David Naughton are among the most charming couples of their acquaintance. Yet beneath their surface airiness a serious struggle goes on; the struggle of David to make a woman out of his child-wife, Claudia. This book chronicles Claudia's growing-up in a series of uproarious adventures which have delighted many readers in the pages of magazines. To quote one review, it is "so full of gayety and acute observation about men and women, it makes you wonder why novelists have been assuming for some years that readers can be thrilled only by violence and maladjusted sex life."

Freedman, Benedict and Nancy—MRS. MIKE *(Coward-McCann, 1947)*—21 records—read by Kate McComb AFB

This is first and foremost a love story, the story of Kathy, a young Irish Boston girl, and Sergeant Mike, a Canadian Mountie, who is priest, doctor, and magistrate to all in a great wilderness of millions of square miles. It is the story of the start of young love, its growth to maturity, and its acceptance of a dangerous, hard, but enthralling life lived out against the tremendous background of the wilderness, at times beautiful, at times terrifying and overwhelming. The simple descriptions of forest fires, diphtheria plagues, mosquitoes more to be feared than wolves or bears, the heart-gripping cold, and short sudden springs are wonderfully vivid and telling.

Goertz, Arthémise—GIVE US OUR DREAM *(Whittlesey House, 1947)*—16 records—read by Terry Hayes APH

The scene is a small apartment house in Sunnyside, just thirty minutes from Times Square—a lowly kind of Grand Hotel, but to Mrs. Lily Marsan as exciting a place as anyone could ask. Although she was a widow, Mrs. Marsan was seldom lonely. For years now she had suffered joyously from insomnia. Things happened at night that never happened in the daytime. And scarcely a night passed but Mrs. Marsan could share vicariously in some drama of her neighborhood. She had her window overlooking the street, and Mr. Cernak's gold-inlaid opera glasses. She couldn't help sharing in the lives of everyone around her. She believed firmly in fate and the

stars, but sometimes she had to give fate a shove in the right direction. "We all have our dreams," said Mrs. Marsan. "They don't cost a dime, and they don't take up much space." Living from day to day by her own simple philosophy, she helped her friends to attain their dreams.

Grey, Zane—Valley of Wild Horses *(Harper, 1927)* 16 records—read by Livingston Gilbert APH

In this breathtaking yarn Zane Grey tells of young Panhandle Smith. Pursued by a desperate character who had ruined his father, matching his skill and wits against an unscrupulous human enemy and seeking his fortune in a rock-rimmed canyon where hundreds of glorious, stampeding, wild horses represent the prize of a lifetime, Smith learns his lesson the hard way. After the thrilling episode at the Valley of Wild Horses, Panhandle Smith comes face to face with the spectacle of the girl he loves seated in a stage coach with his worst enemy, about to depart on a wedding trip. One of them must die. In an action-packed climax Zane Grey brings to his readers the high point of a dramatic story which adds new glory to the name of a recognized master.

Hough, Henry Beetle—Long Anchorage *(Appleton-Century, 1947)*—21 records—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

Out of New Bedford, a hundred years ago, the tall ships sailed over the seven seas—to the South American coasts, to the far Pacific, to the Indian Ocean or any other water in the world where a man might come upon a whale. Ashmead ships, some of them; but, though he longed for it beyond almost anything else, Russell Ashmead was never one of their company. That was the doing of his father, who had decreed that he should stay ashore and manage the newer and potentially more prosperous family property, the Desdemona cotton mill. His father thought, too, that he should settle down and marry Betsy Riddell, ambitious and selfish coquette though she might be; but her sister Mary, chosen by both families as the bride of his solid brother Tom, was the one whose adventurous spirit drew him like a magnet. ... From this romantic era, and this human situation pregnant with drama, Henry Beetle Hough has wrought a tale of love and high adventure.

Leslie, Frank—There's A Spot in My Heart *(Simon & Schuster, 1947)*—10 records—read by Kenneth Meeker APH

Grandfather thought that a man who saves his money will come to no good end. Grandmother bore out his conviction that nothing a woman says above a whisper is worth hearing. Uncle George was like a cyclone that had been trapped in a barrel. Everybody, on the other hand, loved Mother, even though she left more of her dearest friends waiting for her on street corners and never saw them again. These—together with McCloskey the cook, who slugged it out with Grandmother all over the kitchen for more than thirty years; William the handyman, a "God-sight" man; and various relatives, friends, and appendages—make up the household of the brownstone house in New York at the turn of the century.

Overholser, Wayne D.—Buckaroo's Code *(Macmillan, 1947)* —12 records—read by Livingston Gilbert APH

Cotton Drennan, a lean, two fisted six footer, has wandered into the cattle country of central Oregon and taken a job riding for the Broken Ring, Jackson Malloy's outfit. There are several strange things which to Cotton's mind want explaining. For one, why has his boss hired a lot of gunmen when the story is that he is only developing the Broken Ring so that he can sell it at a nice profit to some rich dude? For another, why has Sandra Taney, a lovely young girl, come to this wild country alone and set up a ranch in competition with Malloy? Cotton finds himself getting mad when he learns that some of the powerful ranchers are resorting to violence against the small cattlemen, and he decides to do something about it, thus putting himself squarely in the middle of a land war which must be fought to its bitter, deadly finish. But the buckaroo's code, in contrast to that of the gunman, is to fight for justice no matter how small the profit or how great the personal risk.

Shellabarger, Samuel—Prince of Foxes *(Little, Brown, 1947)*—35 records—read by George Walsh APH

Here is the lusty, enterprising, violent, and creative era known as the Renaissance; and this the story of Andrea Orsini, a young man

of violent accomplishment who undertakes a delicate mission at the court of Ferrara. "It is a cloak-and-dagger novel *par excellence.* The moral background is of little importance. It starts the book in motion. Then you forget it. The story is the thing. It has all the necessary paraphernalia for a cloak-and-dagger novel; episode and suspense and drama. What is going to happen next, and how will it happen? Maskings and unmaskings, spies and counterspies, duellings, swordplay, and murders. And of course two very comely ladies. If you like historical novels, it is certainly required reading for this summer of 1948. Personally, I do."—Thomas Caldecott Chubb, *Saturday Review of Literature.*

MYSTERY AND DETECTIVE

Iams, Jack—THE BODY MISSED THE BOAT *(Morrow, 1947)*—13 records—read by George Patterson APH

It all began on a quiet, peaceful morning—quiet and peaceful at the Consulate, at any rate, because Consul Warren T. Mallory hadn't come in yet. It was a deceptive calm, though, as was readily apparent the moment Philippa Darrow burst on the scene. Philippa was a professional animal hunter, a profession to which few women are called—particularly one of such handsome proportions and fiery red hair. And on this day her temper matched her hair. Somebody, she said, had gone and let her prize gorilla, Mama Bu-bu, out of the cage, and that was as good as letting $5,000 out of a cage—her bankteller's cage, at least—and she wanted something done about it. As a considerable afterthought, she added that whoever had let the gorilla out had left a corpse within—and thereby hangs this tale. . . .

Tilton, Alice—THE IRON CLEW: A Leonidas Witherall Mystery *(Farrar, Straus, 1947)*—12 records—read by Morris Fleurnoy APH

Leonidas Witherall, who is the spitting image of Bill Shakespeare, runs pell-mell into another amazing mystery written in a humor-cum-homicide manner. "Bill" Witherall is a mystery writer himself. In his housekeeper's "candied" opinion, his clues are too out of this world. So his next book is to begin with an innocent-looking

brown paper package. This simple decision starts a chain of events in which the old octopus of fate puts out all eight tentacles. Even before Leonidas gets to his dinner engagement with Fenwick Balderston, the chase is on—with Leonidas both the pursuer and the pursued, on that surprising snowy night in Dalton, Framfield, and environs. The clues, not all of them iron, appear in delightful confusion, together with a train of lively characters who help and hinder Leonidas in his Odyssey.

BIOGRAPHY

Burns, Walter Noble—THE SAGA OF BILLY THE KID *(Doubleday, Page, 1926)*—19 records—read by Livingston Gilbert APH

Billy the Kid, the Southwest's most famous desperado and its last great outlaw with a genius for depopulation, lived twenty-one years and killed twenty-one men "not counting Mexicans and Indians." To save a friend, at the age of twelve, Billy the Kid plunged a knife into the heart of a ruffian in a barroom brawl and started upon his career as a killer—a Robin Hood of the Mesas, a Don Juan of New Mexico whose youthful daring has never been equalled in our entire frontier history. He was born in a New York slum, became the central figure in the Lincoln County, New Mexico, cattle war, and the idol of the Southwest. His battles, capture, escape, loves, duels and death are here for the first time completely told.

James, Will—LONE COWBOY *(Scribner's, 1932)*—24 records read by Livingston Gilbert APH

This is the story of a lonely boy with two passions—horses and drawing—who, when the rough life of a cowboy and broncho buster had broken his health, became an artist and through stories and drawings made his loved horses famous. It has been said of Will James: "He can't spell worth a cent and he doesn't know much about grammar. But he has a lot he wants to say and he gets it out in the easiest, simplest way he can."

Kantor, MacKinlay—But Look, The Morn: The Story of A Childhood *(Coward-McCann, 1947)*—22 records—read by George Patterson APH

"This story of his early years was written by MacKinlay Kantor not chiefly as a story of himself but as a reminiscence of Webster City, Iowa, and of his mother. He has written it with humor and affection and without excessive sentiment. A remarkably amiable picture is achieved by Mr. Kantor of the first eleven years of his life, 1904-15, years which must have been in many ways bitter and baffling. That he is able to look back upon them with so much kindness is due in part to the extraordinary vigor and integrity of his mother and to the genial vitality of Webster City in the early years of this century."—*U.S. Quarterly Book List.*

King-Hall, Magdalen—The Lovely Lynchs *(Rinehart, 1946)*—18 records—read by George Walsh APH

"This is a delightful book for anyone who likes memoirs, or indeed for anyone who likes a story, for the chronicle of the 'lovely Lynchs,' two Irish belles of the eighteenth century, though true, has everything that romance could covet. What a tale! Dorothea and Jenny Lynch, the children of a hard-riding, hard-drinking, impoverished Irish squire and a more cultured and aristocratic mother, Protestants whose forebears had come from England, grew up in untrammeled freedom, deeply and beautifully devoted to each other, and happy in a country existence. But the fairy had bestowed upon them the gifts of an amazing beauty, sweetness and generosity of temperament, and a charm which, as they grew to womanhood, swept all who encountered it away. Both girls married into the peerage and secured not only titles but wealth. The story of their marriages, of Jenny's elopement and desertion, of Dolly's ecstatic love for a husband whose love was given to his mistress, all reads like an eighteenth-century novel. What a picture it would—probably will—make."—Amy Loveman, *Book-of-the-Month Club News.*

Levy, Harriet Lane—920 O'Farrell Street *(Doubleday, 1947)*—17 records—read by Ethel Everett AFB

This is the story of the Levys, an orthodox American-Jewish fam-

ily in late nineteenth-century San Francisco. It was on O'Farrell Street that Harriet Lane Levy lived as a girl, and it is of the house at number 920 and the people who came there—neighbors, friends, tradespeople, and Irish serving maid—that she writes. Many chapters are named for rooms in the old house, and in them are grouped the memories that each room evokes: *The Parlor:* "On each side of the fireplace stood two round cushions of red brocaded silk. From each a tongue of gold shot forth. What were they? Nobody ever guessed, nobody asked. Mother placed a foot upon the golden tongue, the cushion parted—and disclosed a white porcelain cuspidor. . . ."

Marshall, Katherine Tupper—Together: Annals of an Army Wife *(Tupper & Love, 1947)*—16 records—read by Dorcas Ruthenburg APH

In 1930 the author of this book married a lieutenant colonel who was destined to become one of the greatest military leaders in history. About him the President of the United States has said, "millions of Americans gave their country outstanding service. General of the Army George C. Marshall gave it victory." How did George Marshall attain this position? How did he discipline his body and mind to perform the most exacting military task of all times? This book illumines these and many other questions essential to our knowledge of the most complex and important period in history. *Together* is written with delightful friendliness, humor and charm by Katherine Tupper Marshall, wife of our Secretary of State. It is an important book. It is also a love story.

BLINDNESS

Fox, Monroe L.—Blind Adventure *(Lippincott, 1946)*—8 records—read by Morris Fleurnoy APH

The author of this book is an average American citizen who cheerfully left his young wife and baby, when the call came to go out and fight against the enemies of civilization. While he was serving as a member of a naval underwater demolition team during the invasion of Iwo Jima, the ship upon which he was stationed was hit squarely by a Jap bomb. When he finally reached sick bay, the doctors informed him that, in addition to other injuries, his eye-

sight had been destroyed. This is the story of his fight to regain independence. He learned braille, the use of a Seeing Eye dog, and touch-typing, and he now performs most of the daily chores on the dude ranch which he and his wife operate near Chama, N.M.

DESCRIPTION, TRAVEL, ADVENTURE

Pyle, Ernie—HOME COUNTRY *(Wm. Sloane Associates, 1947)* —31 records—read by Walter Gerard APH

"In this volume, the late Ernie Pyle has written of his countrymen at home. *Home Country* is a compilation of newspaper columns written between 1935 and 1940, when its peripatetic author was wandering restlessly through the forty-eight states and even making side trips to Hawaii, Alaska, and Mexico. Fashioned in unpretentious style, with a sure eye for human interest, and an almost equally sure touch in transcribing the everyday dilemmas of the unheadlined American, this book presents a cross section of the personal hopes and problems of the average citizen."—*U.S. Quarterly Book List.*

NATURAL HISTORY

Peattie, Donald Culross—GREEN LAURELS: THE LIVES AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE GREAT NATURALISTS *(Simon & Schuster, 1938)*—19 records—read by Walter Gerard APH

"I am telling about the great naturalists," says Donald Culross Peattie, "not simply from a biographical point of view; these men are the windows, so to speak, through which I want to reveal the great scene that occupied them all—nature itself." Like the men of whom he writes, Peattie has found the richest hunting where others have not looked. As we explore the American wilderness with Bartram, Michaux, Wilson and Audubon and share in the discoveries of the great naturalists in distant lands down through the ages, we realize that we too can make discoveries, that we have only to make Nature our companion during a ramble in the country or a stroll in the city park to provide ourselves with a fresh source of endless entertainment.

CHECK THE TITLES YOU WISH TO BORROW, DETACH THE LIST AND MAIL IT TO YOUR TALKING BOOK LIBRARY—**NOT TO THE FOUNDATION.**

Talking Books should be borrowed from your nearest regional distributing library. All libraries have the same collections, so do not attempt to borrow records from more than one of these libraries.

- ☐ Bekessy—Barabbas—22 r. APH
- ☐ Burns—The Saga of Billy the Kid—19 r. APH
- ☐ Cather—Death Comes for the Archbishop—15 r. AFB
- ☐ Dickens—Dombey and Son—68 r. APH
- ☐ Fox—Blind Adventure—8 r. APH
- ☐ Franken—Claudia—15 r. APH
- ☐ Freedman—Mrs. Mike—21 r. AFB
- ☐ Goertz—Give Us Our Dream—16 r. APH
- ☐ Grey—Valley of Wild Horses—16 r. APH
- ☐ Hough—Long Anchorage—21 r. AFB
- ☐ Iams—The Body Missed the Boat—13 r. APH
- ☐ James—Lone Cowboy—24 r. APH
- ☐ Kantor—But Look, The Morn—22 r. APH
- ☐ King-Hall—The Lovely Lynchs—18 r. APH
- ☐ Leslie—There's A Spot in My Heart—10 r. APH
- ☐ Levy—920 O'Farrell Street—17 r. AFB
- ☐ Marshall—Together—16 r. APH
- ☐ Overholser—Buckaroo's Code—12 r. APH
- ☐ Peattie—Green Laurels—19 r. APH

(see reverse side)

☐ Pyle—Home Country—31 r. APH
☐ Shellabarger—Prince of Foxes—35 r. APH
☐ Tilton—The Iron Clew—12 r. APH
☐ Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine—April, May, June, 1948 APH
☐ Reader's Digest—April, May, June, 1948 APH
☐ Talking Book Topics—March, June, 1948 AFB

Dear Librarian: I would like to borrow the titles checked on this list:

READER'S NAME

ADDRESS

CITY POSTAL UNIT NO.

STATE

(SEE REVERSE SIDE)

TALKING BOOK TOPICS

VOL. XIV, NO. 2 SEPTEMBER, 1948

Issued Quarterly by the
AMERICAN FOUNDATION *for the* BLIND, Inc.
15 WEST 16th STREET • NEW YORK 11, N. Y.

Entered as second-class matter June 11, 1936, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of August 24, 1912.

Talking Book Topics

VOL. XIV, NO. 2 SEPTEMBER, 1948

The American Foundation for the Blind is a national agency the purpose of which is to promote increasingly and uncompromisingly the interests of all the blind throughout the United States, in close cooperation with all local organizations.

TALKING BOOK TOPICS is issued by the Foundation in inkprint, and in Talking Book form, four times a year—in March, June, September, and December. A printed copy is sent to all readers, free of charge, to aid you in requesting titles from your regular distributing library. There is a subscription price of $1 a year for the recorded edition.

If you can afford the yearly subscription price of $1 in order to receive the magazine in recorded form, please tear out the coupon in this issue, have it filled in, and mail it to the Talking Book Department of the American Foundation for the Blind, 15 West 16th Street, New York 11, New York, accompanied by your remittance.

Enclosed find the sum of $1.00 to cover one year's subscription for the recorded edition of TALKING BOOK TOPICS. Please send this magazine to:

SUBSCRIBER'S NAME .....

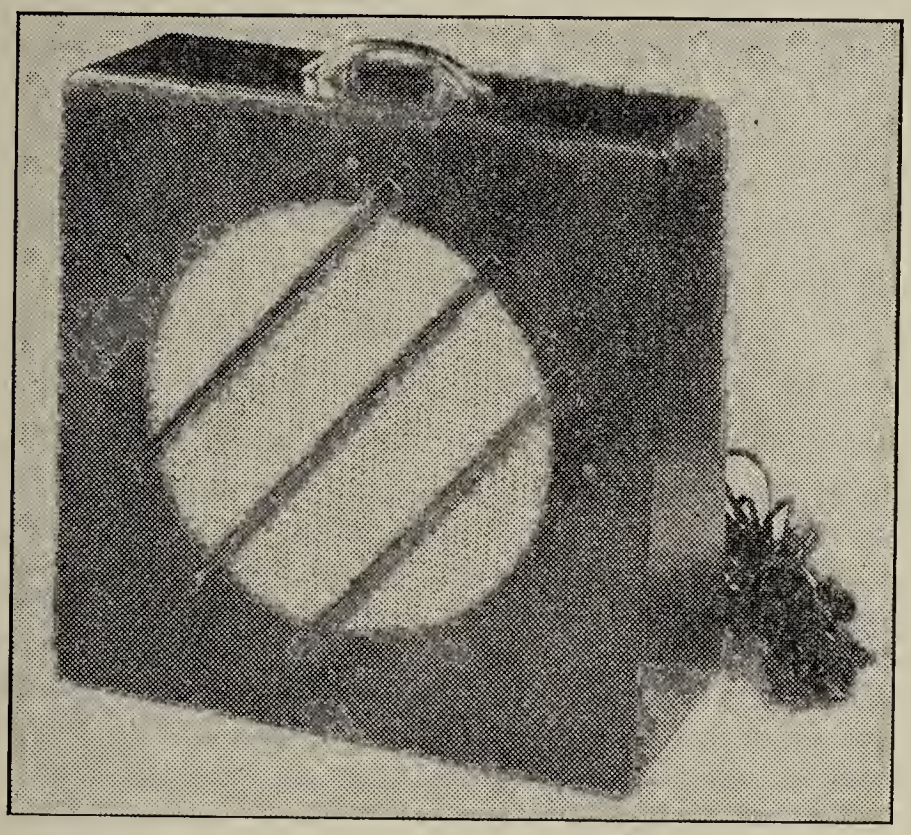
STREET ADDRESS .....

CITY .....

POSTAL UNIT NO. .....

STATE .....

A New High Fidelity Loud Speaker For Your Talking Book



• This 12″ dynamic speaker is adaptable for use with all Talking Book machines for increased clarity and fidelity. It is especially recommended for use with the Sonograph. It plugs into the earphone jack and is provided with a 20 ft. cable which enables you to place it anywhere in the room, away from the Talking Book machine. It is light in weight and measures 14½″ high by 14½″ wide by 7½″ deep. It is mounted in a handsome walnut-finished case. Price $13.50 F.O.B., New York.

• Send your order to:

American Foundation for the Blind, Inc.
Talking Book Department
15 West 16 St., New York 11, N. Y.

Orders will be filled in order of receipt.

DAISY, DAISY . . . . .

We have been gratified by the response to our query about DAISY KENYON. So far we have received twenty-one letters on this subject. Five of them support the borrower whose letter we quoted. The other sixteen, while expressing various opinions about Daisy herself, are firm on one point: they do not want censorship of Talking Books in any form. *We regret that we cannot reprint all of these letters, but we reproduce below a selection in what we believe is a fair proportion; that is, one anti-Daisy, 3 pro and, to account for the odd one, a letter which views the subject from the literary rather than the moral point of view. Here goes:*

Talking Book Topics;—

In response to a suggestion made by one of our favorite readers of Talking Book records, Ann Tyrrell, when reading a letter received from a Talking Book reader, that we write telling whether we agree with the writer's condemnation of filthy novels being put into Talking Book records, I wish to say that I most heartily agree with what she said. I have long regretted that so much money and time should be wasted upon such useless and harmful books. There are entertaining, and inspirational, or informing books enough that need to put into record form for the use of those who have such a limited number of available books as the blind have, and which would be worth the taxpayers' money, and the readers' time. I cannot tell how strongly I feel upon this subject.

Sincerely yours,
Della B. Clark
Stone Ridge, N. Y.

Dear Editor of "Talking Book Topics":

I was dismayed to find the comment in this current issue of titles regarding one reader's extremely biased reaction to the book **Daisy Kenyon.** I am not defending that particular book—but, I am vigorously defending a free press for the blind! For many years, it was difficult for those of us who like to read all types of fiction to obtain the books most talked about and widely read by the general public. I am an avid reader, have read the finest classics and also many books that this person would dub "filthy." However, I would champion the cause of making **all** kinds of books available in Braille, and allow the blind in-

dividual to make his own selection. In the **Braille Book Review** and the **Talking Book Topics,** the reader has a thumbnail sketch of what the book deals with, and surely he need not read any book that is distasteful to him! I have not read **Daisy Kenyon,** but I am grateful to the Talking Book people for making the book available to me, if I choose to do so! I repeat, this is not in praise of modern literature—much of which is poor stuff, but it is a plea to go forward in the publishing of all types of literature, so that we may have the wonderful intellectual freedom of choice! I for one feel extremely grateful to those who have made these books possible for those of us who do our own thinking, and after all, who can be harmed if he does read such a book by mistake?

Yours for freedom of the press,
Natalie Miller
Evanston, Ill.

Dear Sirs:

The article that was in the June Talking Book Topics concerning the **Daisy Kenyon** story, was unjust. If the borrower who wrote that article does not like such stories, they do not have to read them. They only make it mean for those who like a bit of spice, which is not filth or trash.

Some people care for books of that sort, so why deprive them of that type of story, if they enjoy reading them.

Respectfully yours,
Mr. Ray Foose
Glendon, Mahanoy City, Pa.

Dear Sirs:

. . . . The trend in modern literature is in the direction of realism. Those mentally living in the Victorian period may not like that fact, but it is nonetheless a fact because of that. Far from recording too many books of that nature, the Library of Congress has been guilty of slighting modern realistic literature shamefully. Important and, in some respects, great books like Sinclair's **The Jungle,** Dreiser's **Sister Carrie,** Dos Passos' **U.S.A.** trilogy, Farrell's **Studs Lonigan** trilogy, Steinbeck's **Grapes of Wrath,** just to name a few, have not as yet found their way into Talking Book libraries. Should these books and others like them be recorded, no one will force people like the writer of the letter quoted in the Topics to read them. They can continue to live in a world of hearts and flowers, if they choose to do so. The books should, however, be available for those who do care to read them, whether their judgment be good or bad in so doing. . . .

Sincerely,
Albert Gayzagian
Watertown, Mass.

Gentlemen:

The book **Daisy Kenyon** is void of interest from a story standpoint. There is no descriptive matter of the geographic setting. The constant guzzling of drink would disgust the most confirmed drunkard. The useless pointless profanity should bring the author to his or her knees in a secret closet to beg forgiveness for that which approaches unpardonable sin. The promiscuous secular immorality is badly worded and extremely disgusting.

One asked me what right have you to express your priggish opinion. I am twice a father and two times a grandfather; I like the picturesque description of secular sin in **Quo Vadis.** I with millions have rejoiced over hundreds of years over the courage of Joseph who left part of his garment in the hands of Potiphar's wife and went to prison and eternal fame as the result: The Holy Bible. I tolerate the profanity of the Concert manager because it was so naturally described by the author in **Of Lena Geyer.**

I would not cross out a single word from the story of a great city and its people as I viewed it from the top of **A Tree Grows in Brooklyn.** I ask for the third time that **Forever Amber** may be recorded for the readers of talking records and would welcome the opportunity to sit in committee and listen to the ink print reading and would then be pleased to express my opinion for myself and in behalf of others.

I will as fast as possible add to my collection of Bible and poetic record collection.

I will continue to read Talking Book records as many and oft as time permits and thank God and those who produce them for the privilege.

Respectfully and affectionately yours,

Ferdinand C. Brewer
New Rochelle, N. Y.

NEW TALKING BOOKS

The following Talking Books, recently recorded for the Library of Congress, may now be borrowed from your regular distributing library.

AFB—*American Foundation for the Blind, New York, N. Y.*
APH—*American Printing House for the Blind, Louisville, Ky.*

FICTION

Albrand, Martha—WHISPERING HILL *(Random House, 1947)* —19 records—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

When Norah Sedley was forty-six she looked no older than thirty. "She'll never grow old," women would sigh. Men, though intrigued, still resented her aloofness. It was true that after Luke Sedley died she had outwardly frozen. But no one knew of the vengeful fire that burned beneath that icy surface. Nor did anyone suspect that her boundless devotion to Lukas, her son, cloaked a desperate resolve rooted in hate for her husband's memory. Only when Lukas fell hopelessly in love did Norah's subtle suffocation of his spirit meet resistance, with results as dramatic as they were unforeseen.

Brace, Gerald Warner—THE GARRETSON CHRONICLE *(Norton, 1947)*—24 records—read by George Patterson APH

"In sharp contrast to much current fiction, Mr. Brace's chronicle of three generations of New England aristocracy is a mellow and thoughtful presentation of an American way of life now increasingly remote. Randall Garretson's way of life was Emersonian; he was a gentleman philosopher, would-be writer and dabbler in architecture, a nature lover and classicist, an individualist, yet a sturdy adherent to New England literary and social traditions. His son, Ralph, viewed him as a failure, for Ralph belonged to the 'lost generation.' But even Ralph could not wholly escape the past. When he ran away from Harvard and very nearly got himself married into a bourgeois business life, it was his cultural heritage which

saved him and brought him back home. He like his father was a thinker; but where Randall searched for happiness in vision and abstraction, Ralph found his in 'flesh and blood and hammer and nails.' "—*U.S. Quarterly Book List.*

Burman, Ben Lucien—Blow For A Landing *(Dutton, 1938)* —22 records—read by Hugh Fellows AFB

A pleasant novel about the life of the shantymen on the lower Mississippi between Memphis and New Orleans. "The best novel about the Mississippi since Mark Twain. If you haven't met Willow Joe, Opal, Mrs. Penny and the rest you are still among America's under-privileged. *Blow for a Landing* is everything it is said to be —great Americana."—Sterling North, *Chicago Daily News.*

Butler, Samuel—The Way Of All Flesh *(Modern Library)* —30 records—read by John Brewster AFB

Although Samuel Butler began to write this book about the year 1872 and was engaged upon it intermittently until 1884, it was not published until 1903, after his death. It is a study in one of his favorite themes, the relations of parents to children, embittered by some of his own recollections. "It drives one almost to despair of English literature when one sees so extraordinary a study of English life as Butler's posthumous *The Way of All Flesh* making so little impression that when, some years later, I produce plays in which Butler's extraordinarily fresh, free and future-piercing suggestions have an obvious share, I am met with nothing but vague cacklings about Ibsen and Nietzsche. . . . Really, the English do not deserve to have great men."—G. Bernard Shaw, *Preface to Major Barbara.*

Clemens, Samuel L.—The Tragedy of Pudd'nhead Wilson and Those Extraordinary Twins *(Harper, 1922)*—14 records—read by Burt Blackwell APH

First published in 1894, *Pudd'nhead Wilson* was one of Mark Twain's few attempts to write a complete adult novel. The scenes are laid in the Missouri village environment he knew so well, and

Pudd'nhead is the village atheist, whose maxims doubtless express much of the author's own disillusionment.

Collins, Norman—DULCIMER STREET *(Duell, Sloan & Pearce, 1947)*—53 records—read by James Walton APH

"A boarding house is not a bad microcosm in which to mirror a world it typifies. It shudders in every public wind. It records signs and portents, clouds and tremors, it knows of wars before the ministers do. And conversely, every slightest shock in the life of any one of its members is felt like a thunderclap along the whole quivering circuit. There are no private lives, there is one life at Ten Dulcimer Street, and it is this organic, supra-personal entity which is the real hero of the book. Mr. Collins is by no means a Dickens and may never be; it is nonetheless true that not every one of Dickens's books is as good as *Dulcimer Street,* which is a rich, tender, humorous, gusty document of modern London life."—Nathan L. Rothman, *Saturday Review of Literature.*

Eden, the Honourable Emily—THE SEMI-ATTACHED COUPLE—with an Introduction by the Rt. Hon. Anthony Eden *(Houghton Mifflin, 1947)*—17 records—read by John Knight AFB

"The reader rubs his eyes incredulously as he reads. Can this be a newly discovered novel by Jane Austen? No, it is not. Yet such a book might have been written early in her career by the immortal Jane. It is an oddity, a literary curiosity, for it was written almost a hundred and thirty years ago in an England (as the author quaintly puts it in a preface added later) 'before railroads were established and traveling coaches-and-four superseded; before postage stamps had extinguished the privilege of franking.' She was an aristocrat, that Emily Eden, member of the clan represented today by the well-known diplomat, Anthony. Her plot, centered on the adjustment to one another of a rich young married couple, is slight. The characters are everything. We owe a vote of thanks to the person who pulled this long-ago forgotten novel out from the old leather trunk under the eaves in the attic and let us read it."—Dorothy Canfield, *Book-of-the-Month Club News.*

Edmonds, Walter D.—In The Hands of The Senecas *(Little, Brown, 1947)*—12 records—read by William Lazar AFB

Dygartsbush, New York, in the year 1778—smoke rising from lonely cabins, but not the fragrant smoke of cookfires, welcoming the men home from clearing, forest and trail; for more than one husband had perished in those flames after his scalp was safely tucked in the raider's belt. This is a story out of New York State history. It is a story of Indians—real Indians who vary as all humas beings—Indians who are impersonally cruel, simple and friendly, wise, brutal, sly, kind, proud, self-effacing, laughter-loving. It is the story of a woman's steadfastness in the face not only of mortal danger but of the loss of all that had given her pride and confidence in living.

Ertz, Susan—Mary Hallam *(Harper, 1947)*—16 records—read by Terry Hayes APH

Scarcely in her twenties, Mary Hallam had learnt enough of life, she thought, to find it a purposeless ordeal. Family life meant the garish London house, the silly, sensual stepmother and her devoted, helpless husband. Love wore the shape of a terrible, smiling old man in Paris. So Mary took rooms by the seashore in Brittany, and for long days she walked on the beach, contemplating the bright, deadly surf, waiting for resolution to come. Then, quite abruptly, she found herself taken in charge by Alan Garstin, a sturdy young English countryman. In short order she was installed in the Garstin's rural cottage where she found a wholly new existence and learned the satisfaction of family affection, the savor of friendship, and, ultimately, the heights of love.

Hobson, Laura Z.—Gentleman's Agreement *(Simon & Schuster, 1947)*—17 records—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

"Philip Schuyler Green, an able journalist in his mid-30's, comes from California to be a staff writer on a great crusading weekly magazine. The first assignment given him is to do a series of articles on anti-Semitism. He is baffled to devise an 'angle' of approach which will lift the story above routine. Then, after much

frustrated groping, the simple, dramatic solution occurs to him. For this series of articles on religious or 'racial' prejudice, he will himself pretend to be a Jew. This, briefly summarized, is the brilliant idea that Mrs. Hobson utilizes for her new novel. Perhaps her treatment of this sombre theme is brisk rather than profound, but it is stirringly readable."—Christopher Morley, *Book-of-the-Month Club News.*

Kane, Harnett T.—New Orleans Woman: a Biographical Novel of Myra Clark Gaines *(Doubleday, 1946)*—26 records —read by George Walsh APH

This is the almost incredible story of the lifelong fight of Myra Gaines against all New Orleans. Myra was in her twenties when she suddenly learned from the man who reared her that she was not his child. Her father had been the enigmatic Daniel Clark, merchant prince of New Orleans, whose land comprised one third of the city. It was for this fortune and also for the clearing of her name that Myra battled through all her life, against every force in the city. Here is the fiery saga of a truly indomitable woman—and a superb picture of New Orleans in its most exciting period.

North, Sterling—So Dear To My Heart *(Doubleday, 1947)* —11 records—read by Douglass Parkhirst AFB

Indiana in the days of lamplight, gingham tablecloths, slat bonnets, and copper-toed shoes comes alive in this nostalgic novel. The story begins when Jeremiah Tarleton, a lonesome ten-year-old orphan is living with his proud, religious Granny Kinkaid. An artist with her loom, Granny is seeking to tell the complicated and passionate story of Jeremiah's heritage and of her own bitterness against the Tarleton family by weaving a multi-colored counterpane of "story covers." Two themes run through Jeremiah's life during the spring and summer of the story. One is the slowly unfolding tale taking shape under Granny's work-gnarled hands, and the other is the boy's fiercely protective affection for a black lamb—a forbidden possession. Said Dr. Daniel L. Poling: "Here is another 'Yearling' story but never anything quite like this has been written before."

Roy, Gabrielle—THE TIN FLUTE—translated by Hannah Josephson *(Reynal & Hitchcock, 1947)*—25 records—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

This first novel introduces a distinguished talent to the American reading public. Gabrielle Roy was born in Manitoba, the youngest of eight children in a French-Canadian family of pioneer stock. She has been writing since she was twelve years old. When some of her short stories were published with success she decided to become an author. For some years, with little but her typewriter, she made her living writing stories and feature articles for Canadian papers and magazines and a series of studies of Canadian life for *Le Bulletin des Agriculteurs,* but each year she managed to take two or three months to work on her first novel, *The Tin Flute* (published in French as *Bonheur d'Occasion*). Huddled at the foot of luxurious Westmount with its rigidly English standards of comfort lies Montreal's French industrial district of Saint-Henri, jammed in between the base of the mountain and the Lachine Canal, and crisscrossed by railroads from east and west. Lonely and with time on her hands, Miss Roy began walking down there every day and became fascinated by its character and people. Her book about them is clear and sensible and probably the most authentic picture of the working class to come out of Canada.

Warren, Robert Penn—ALL THE KING'S MEN (*Harcourt, Brace, 1946)*—44 records—read by Burt Blackwell APH

"Two men are the principal characters of this novel; Willie Stark, a brilliant southern politician whose will to good has got hopelessly confused with his will to power, and Jack Burden, a spiritually dissatisfied young aristocrat who, after a try at history and journalism, becomes Stark's special investigator. Willie is seen entirely through Jack Burden, and the essence of the story is the evaluation of both men as indicated by the rather subtle fluctuations of the relationship between them. Willie Stark's resemblance to a well-known southern politician of a decade ago is obvious, but the book is no more a history of him than *Richard III* is a history of Richard III, and no more a study of the South as such than *Hamlet* is a study of Denmark. Mr. Warren is a regionalist in deriving his foreground materials from his own section. His real materials, however, are the state of civilization and, beyond that, the human forces and

needs which have produced and, in turn, attempt to come to grips with that state."—*U.S. Quarterly Book List.*

Wodehouse, P. G.—Full Moon *(Doubleday, 1947)*—14 records—read by Barry Doig AFB

Here is a new Blandings Castle story with the old Wodehouse magic. The cast of characters is pretty much as follows: Clarence, the ninth Earl of Emsworth and the proud possessor of the Empress of Blandings—a prize pig—and a son, the Hon. Freddie Threepwood; Freddie, who has married the daughter of an American dog-biscuit manufacturer and is working on Tipton Plimsoll for a dog-biscuit concession; Tipton, who is working on barley water for a case of the d.t.'s; Prudence, a pretty little peanut who has been exiled to Blandings to keep her from marrying an artist named Bill Lister; and Veronica, the female fly-wit champ of the British Isles, whose mother is trying to marry her to the well-heeled-and-oiled Plimsoll. So now we have a tense situation: Prudence sighing for her swain, the Earl for his swine, Freddie for his dog-biscuit concession, Veronica for Plimsoll's money, and Plimsoll for a drink. All hell breaks loose when the Empress of Blandings is found in Veronica's bedroom and Plimsoll discovers that one of the more horrible of his d.t. apparitions actually exists.

COLLECTIONS

Maugham, W. Somerset—Creatures of Circumstance *(Doubleday, 1947)*—20 records—read by Kenneth Meeker APH

"The fifteen stories in this volume have backgrounds that cover half the world—England, France, America, Spain, the Far East. Their subjects range from grim studies in the aftermath of murder to light anecdotes which, in less skillful hands, would hardly take more than a paragraph—it was probably from Maugham that Alexander Woollcott, the disciple who once knelt to him in an elevator, learned the art of dressing up a joke or a blackout sketch into a highly readable story; but where Woollcott dressed it up with marshmallow and a cherry, Maugham uses vermouth and a slice of lemon."—Basil Davenport, *Book-of-the-Month Club News.*

Tarkington, Booth—THREE SELECTED SHORT NOVELS *(Doubleday, 1947)*—21 records—read by George Patterson APH

Three novels by the late Booth Tarkington which have appeared in popular magazines and which deal with various marriage problems. *Walterson* is the dramatic story of the great "Standard Magazine," edited by Stuart Walterson, owned by his father-in-law, and coveted by his wife. *Rennie Peddigoe* begins when Rennie is six years old. The divorce of her parents is a shock to the child; the split-up of the home and the eventual marriage of both her father and mother affect her whole life. *Uncertain Molly Collicut* is the story of a woman, flirtatious, irresponsible until her husband's partner embezzles the firm's funds and commits suicide. This crisis, plus the sudden illness of her husband, changes Molly overnight into a mature woman.

van Dyke, Henry—THE BLUE FLOWER *(Scribner's, 1902)*—10 records—read by Bradley Bransford AFB

A collection of stories, some of them symbolic or of religious significance, all of them poetic in essence. The titles are: *The Blue Flower* (from the German of Novalis); *The Source; The Mill: Spy Rock; Wood-Magic; The Other Wise Man; A Handful of Clay; The Lost Word; The First Christmas Tree.*

Weston, Christine—THERE AND THEN *(Scribner's 1947)*—8 records—read by Ann Tyrrell AFB

Stories of India, created from episodes and tales that Mrs. Weston recalls from her childhood there. They vary widely in mood—from the humor of the story of Alexander the antelope to the strange tragedy of the little Hindu boy who felt himself to be pursued by a tiger. But in all of the stories, whether they deal with butterfly-hunting or holy men, there is the constant presence of India herself, a land where things can happen that could not occur anywhere else.

MYSTERY AND DETECTIVE

Cunningham, A.B.—DEATH OF A BULLIONAIRE *(Dutton, 1947)*—11 records—read by Burt Blackwell APH

The death of old Clancy Devoe shook West Texas to its founda-

tions. One of the South's few remaining "bullionaires," he had been a living monument in the State. That this great man should be ambushed and shot down like a common share-cropper was incredible. It was then that Sheriff Jess Roden, famous Kentucky sleuth, was called in. This was one of the most sensational cases Roden had ever worked on—and he sensed that his reputation was at stake. Scouring the countryside, gathering and sifting evidence, he ferrets out the killer, and brings him to justice in a breathtaking climax.

Gardner, Erle Stanley—THE CASE OF THE FAN-DANCER'S HORSE *(Morrow, 1947)*—17 records—read by Staats Cotsworth AFB

It all starts quietly enough—with two cars side-swiping each other in the middle of the desert. And in the trunk of one of them, an ancient jalopy, Perry Mason finds a fan-dancer's wardrobe (Item: 2 fans; Item: 1 pair of dancing shoes). The fans lead to one of the most beautiful clients Perry Mason has ever had—and to a body. A body on the end of a Japanese sword. They also lead to a beautiful mental teaser for you, with Gardner dropping his clues as fast as you can pick them—or his book—up. Here it is, a real legal twister!

Lawrence, Hilda—DEATH OF A DOLL *(Simon & Schuster, 1947)*—19 records—read by Kay Parker AFB

In the five years of its existence Hope House, a Home for Working Girls, had met and vanquished one emergency—a fire in a wastebasket. That was before Ruth Miller mover in, and, a very few hours later, was found limp, broken, and very dead in the courtyard. She had been a mouse of a girl, without family or close friends. There was nobody who might ask embarrassing questions. "Fell or jumped," was the comfortable verdict about poor Ruth Miller. And so it might have stood forever, except for one small accident that a murderer couldn't possibly have foreseen—namely, Mrs. Nicholas Sutton, an excellent customer at the fashionable store where Ruth Miller had worked.

Marsh, Ngaio—FINAL CURTAIN *(Little, Brown, 1947)*—19 records—read by John Brewster AFB

This is the story of Troy Allen, young and beautiful and famous,

who painted a magnificent portrait of an actor great in his role of Macbeth, and who had a part in the last act he played of his life. But Troy was not of the theater like the others cast in Sir Henry Ancred's drama. She never confused the play with reality, and when the climax came she knew it was in dead earnest. So she gave the cue to her husband, Chief Inspector Roderick Alleyn. For the rest of the act he took the center of the stage. But she brought him good support!

WESTERN

Short, Luke—Station West *(Houghton, Mifflin, 1946)*—11 records—read by Kevin McCarthy AFB

When John Haven, an Army officer assigned to a Western post, reports for duty, he is told that his job is to run down a gang of thugs who have been robbing wagon trains carrying gold bullion. The raiders have seized a wagon-load of Army uniforms, so are in possession of a disguise which practically guarantees even greater success for them. Haven's orders are to operate along, and in civilian clothes, to find the leader of the raiders and uncover the cache of stolen uniforms before they can be used. His task is complicated by the dual role he must play, by the necessity of a bit of blackmail, and by the conflict between his duty and his personal feelings—to say nothing of a gambler who doesn't like failures, a group of men handy with both their guns and their fists, and the man whom the girl he loves is engaged to marry.

Spearman, Frank H.—Nan of Music Mountain *(Scribner's, 1916)*—19 records—read by Livingston Gilbert APH

Among the writers of cowboy novels, or "horse operas" as his Hollywood associates irreverently term them, Spearman stands level with Owen Wister and Eugene Manlove Rhodes in his ability to make something like genuine literature of stories of this distinctively American type. "The glaring difference between this western story and others," said one critic, "is F. H. Spearman's ability to write."

ADVENTURE AND TRAVEL

MacDonald, Norman—THE ORCHID HUNTERS: a Jungle Adventure *(Farrar & Rinehart, 1939)*—14 records—read by Livingston Gilbert APH

High adventures of two young Americans who hunted orchids, not for science but for commerce, in the wilds of Colombia and Venezuela. A boyish account of dangers that were met with courage and high spirits.

Stanwell-Fletcher, Theodora C.—DRIFTWOOD VALLEY *(Little, Brown, 1946)*—27 records—read by Dorcas Ruthenburg APH

In a remote part of British Columbia, some thirty miles from the nearest Indian village, and over two hundred miles from the nearest road, railroad or telephone, two young people built their log cabin and spent two eventful years. Their mission was scientific: to collect specimens of wildlife and to study the distribution of northern animal species for a Canadian museum. But their aim was really threefold: adventure and solitude appealed to them as well as exploration of virtually unmapped territory. And their outlook was rewardingly mixed—he, the artist-explorer whose careful observations greatly enhance the appeal of this volume—she, the naturalist and writer, catching the wonder, the violence, the endless enchantment of the wilderness in engrossing prose.

BIOGRAPHY

Denison, Merrill—KLONDIKE MIKE *(Morrow, 1943)*—24 records—read by William Lazar AFB

"This saga takes us back to Klondike Mike's boyhood on an impoverished farm in Buckingham, Ontario, and the apprenticeship in the lumber mill in Michigan; traces his fortunes through the great days of the Yukon sourdoughs and then the equally extraordinary adventures of later years, a reminder that romance, like Yukon gold, is where you find it. To me the honesty of this true biography outweighs both in art and in narrative delight all the

fictions of Jack London or Rex Beach omnibussed together. It has the rush of clean mountain air and the virtue of masculine guts and humor."—Christopher Morley, *Book-of-the-Month Club News.*

Hall, Melvin—JOURNEY TO THE END OF AN ERA: An Autobiography *(Scribner's, 1947)*—40 records—read by Robert Donley AFB

"Fortunate in that he had the means and the leisure to travel and live where he would, in the days before the First World War Colonel Hall saw much of the world. He made long automobile trips through lands far out of the usual beat, he lived a gay and irresponsible life in Paris, and he writes of his experiences in light and entertaining fashion. His book would have been the better for tightening up and shortening, but even in its too great length it is entertaining reading."—George Harriss, *Book-of-the-Month Club News.*

LITERARY HISTORY AND CRITICISM

Gray, James—ON SECOND THOUGHT *(University of Minnesota Press, 1946)*—17 records—read by Lauren Gilbert AFB

"For twenty years—until recently—James Gray has been writing his first-class book reviews for the *St. Paul Press and Dispatch.* I am especially grateful to the University of Minnesota for lifting from newspaper files these excellent appraisals of the literary scene and sharing them with the nation's reading public. Here is a mature, finely discriminating citizen of our American republic of letters, on whom we can rely."—Dorothy Canfield, *Book-of-the-Month Club News.*

NATURAL SCIENCE

Ditmars, Raymond L.—STRANGE ANIMALS I HAVE KNOWN *(Brewster, Warren & Putnam, 1931)*—14 records—read by Peter French APH

The late Dr. Ditmars was for many years curator of the New York Zoological Park. Said he of his work: "For over a quarter of a century, it has been my task to capture, transport, feed, nurse, soothe, fight, guard and cajole various specimens of the animal kingdom."

Training wild animals, making animal movies, demonstrating psychological experiments, extracting venom from snakes—all these were part of his activities and are described in this book.

Kieran, John—FOOTNOTES ON NATURE *(Doubleday, 1947)*—13 records—read by Morris Fleurnoy APH

John Kieran, as anyone who has ever listened to *Information, Please* is aware, knows almost everything about almost everything. As a boy, Mr. Kieran spent his summers on a Dutchess County farm in New York, walking and observing in the woods. He learned a great deal about nature—enough, for example, to be outraged when he later saw an improbable picture of a foolish-looking bird titled "The white-breasted nuthatch is a common bird known to every farm boy and girl. . ." Then one day he found himself staring at a foolish-looking bird that looked exactly like the one in the picture, and sure enough, it was walking down a tree headfirst! Mr. Kieran decided that anything can happen in nature, and he kept on looking. He still is. This book records his observations, not only on nature, but on many other things as well.

RELIGION

Lecomte du Noüy, Pierre—HUMAN DESTINY *(Longmans, 1947)*—21 records—read by Eugene O'Neill, Jr. AFB

"A scientist whose life-work has been the synthesis of mathematics and physics with biology here attempts, for the general reader, a treatise on natural theology for the electronic age, a treatise that is constantly clear, interesting, and high-minded. It arrives at a noble concept of man's place in nature not very different from that of liberal Christianity, both Catholic and Protestant. The author sees evidences of design in nature so all-pervasive as to prove the existence of a supreme Designer. Many Christian divines will hail this book because it aims to provide for their theology a sufficient basis in science. They, and the general reader, must watch thoughtfully for the points at which the author passes beyond experimental fact into conjecture. Whether or not the argument be accepted, readers will find their sense of human worth enhanced by this bold effort to understand the destiny of mankind." —*U.S. Quarterly Book List.*

UNITED STATES

Eaton, Allen H.—Handicrafts of the Southern Highlands *(Russell Sage Foundation, 1937)*—23 records—read by Eugene Earl AFB

This book treats of handicrafts, both as a means of making or improving a living and as a means toward self-expression and a richer experience. It deals particularly with the handicrafts of the Southern Appalachians with their pioneer background and especially with their modern revival and present-day practice. The last section of the work treats of the handicraft movement in rural America, and of the potentialities of the handicrafts in the fields of adult education and of recreation.

Howard, Joseph Kinsey—Montana: High, Wide and Handsome *(Yale, 1943)*—23 records—read by Paul Clark APH

A native of Montana writes of his state and its economic problems as typical of the northern part of the great plains. It has been exploited; mining and stock raising depleted it and drought devastates it because dams are needed. Cooperatives are considered a hopeful augury for the state's future.

ANN TYRRELL

by Charles Silliman

(Reprinted from the column "Meet Your Talking Book Reader" in the BVA Bulletin, April, 1948).

Annalee Tyrrell came down to BVA Headquarters to tell me about herself and her work in making recordings at the Talking Book studio. She has reddish brown hair, blue eyes and a gentle, unassuming manner. As she talked, a strand of her hair slipped down on her forehead and went unnoticed:

"First I read the book through, getting an idea of what it is about, then I go through it again, studying each character and his part in the whole story," she said. "I work, perhaps, ten pages at a time; checking difficult words and foreign phrases. I make a list of the words I have trouble with, then try to find out how to say them. Sometimes the answer is in the library; other times I have to look for someone who speaks the language.

"For example, when I was on my way by car to New York from the west coast where I ended up after a U.S.O. tour, I had a golden opportunity to do some research, by planning the trip so that I could travel through New Mexico where the story I was preparing to read was written. In that way I found the correct pronunciation to a lot of Spanish words." (*The Turquoise* by Anya Seton—Ed.)

Miss Tyrrell said that in one of the Jalna books there was a parrot who had been taught to speak Hindu by some sailors. She was finally able to contact the proprietor of a small shop in Greenwich Village who could speak Hindu. He told her how to pronounce the words, but when she asked him what they meant, his face turned red and he shook his head: "I couldn't do that," he said. "You see, they're not very nice."

Miss Tyrrell's interest in the theatre started when she was very young, as her mother and father were actors on the west coast in the early 1900's. She herself began her professional career on the stage of the Pasadena Playhouse. As recently as last summer she was in the Bucks County Pennsylvania Summer Stock which gave performances for the patients at Valley Forge General Hospital.

Sept '48

In 1946 she traveled overseas with the U.S.O., playing in "Blithe Spirit." Her travels took her to the Aleutian Islands and she was on Attu when the tidal wave struck the Aleutians in early 1946. After that the troupe was sent to the West Indies. She likes to look back on those ten months with the U.S.O. as one of the most interesting periods of her life, in spite of one harrowing experience when the troupe was traveling by plane in the West Indies. Shortly after they took off, Miss Tyrrell fell asleep. Some time later she was awakened by the stewardess who told her to fasten her safety belt. Miss Tyrrell said sleepily: "Oh, are we there already?" The stewardess shook her head: "No. One of the motors has gone bad and we're turning back." Miss Tyrrell thought she was kidding, but soon found out that it was no joke. They just made it back to the airport.

For awhile during the war, Miss Tyrrell was a hostess at the "Stage Door Canteen." She is an inveterate sightseer, loves to swim and play tennis, but says she's not an expert. She plays the piano and Spanish folk songs on the guitar, and she likes to sing. Her birthday comes on February 6th and her favorite things to eat are scalloped potatoes and ham. She said the oddest thing she ever had to eat was when she was in Puerto Rico on her U.S.O. tour. They served her squid in its own ink: "Never again, thank you," she smiled.

Miss Tyrrell says she loves to have friends to dinner and to try and cook them something really good. She likes entertaining in her home even better than going to parties. When she is in California with her mother she likes gardening as a hobby.

She gets quite a bit of fan mail. After she read *Gone With the Wind* she received a surprising number of letters from England. One person sent her a book of poems.

The nicest compliment she ever received in a letter was when the writer said she made the book seem so real that it was as though the listener was right there as the story took place.

"And after all, that is what we strive for," Annalee Tyrrell said.

Sept 48

CHECK THE TITLES YOU WISH TO BORROW, DETACH THE LIST AND MAIL IT TO YOUR TALKING BOOK LIBRARY—**NOT TO THE FOUNDATION.**

Talking Books should be borrowed from your nearest regional distributing library. All libraries have the same collections, so do not attempt to borrow records from more than one of these libraries.

- ☐ Albrand—Whispering Hill—19 r. AFB
- ☐ Brace—The Garretson Chronicle—24 r. APH
- ☐ Burman—Blow for A Landing—22 r. AFB
- ☐ Butler—The Way of All Flesh—30 r. AFB
- ☐ Clemens—Pudd'nhead Wilson—14 r. APH
- ☐ Collins—Dulcimer Street—53 r. APH
- ☐ Cunningham—Death of A Bullionaire—11 r. APH
- ☐ Denison—Klondike Mike—24 r. AFB
- ☐ Ditmars—Strange Animals I Have Known—14 r. APH
- ☐ Eaton—Handicrafts of the Southern Highlands—23 r. AFB
- ☐ Eden—The Semi-Attached Couple—17 r. AFB
- ☐ Edmonds—In the Hands of the Senecas—12 r. AFB
- ☐ Ertz—Mary Hallam—16 r. APH
- ☐ Gardner—The Case of the Fan-Dancer's Horse—17 r. AFB
- ☐ Gray—On Second Thought—17 r. AFB
- ☐ Hall—Journey to the End of an Era—40 r. AFB
- ☐ Hobson—Gentleman's Agreement—17 r. AFB
- ☐ Howard—Montana: High, Wide and Handsome—23 r. APH
- ☐ Kane—New Orleans Woman—26 r. APH
- ☐ Kieran—Footnotes on Nature—13 r. APH
- ☐ Lawrence—Death of A Doll—19 r. AFB
- ☐ Lecomte du Noüy—Human Destiny—21 r. AFB
- ☐ MacDonald—The Orchid Hunters—14 r. APH
- ☐ Marsh—Final Curtain—19 r. AFB
- ☐ Maugham—Creatures of Circumstance—20 r. APH
- ☐ North—So Dear to My Heart—11 r. AFB
- ☐ Roy—The Tin Flute—25 r. AFB

(SEE REVERSE SIDE)

Miss Lende

- ☐ Short—Station West—11 r. AFB
- ☐ Spear—Nan of Music Mountain—19 r. APH
- ☐ Stanwell-Fletcher—Driftwood Valley—27 r. APH
- ☐ Tarkington—Three Selected Short Novels—21 r. APH
- ☐ Van Dyke—The Blue Flower—10 r. AFB
- ☐ Warren—All the King's Men—44 r. APH
- ☐ Weston—There and Then—8 r. AFB
- ☐ Wodehouse—Full Moon—14 r. AFB
- ☐ Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine—July, August, September, 1948 APH
- ☐ Reader's Digest—July, August, September, 1948 APH
- ☐ Talking Book Topics—March, June, September, 1948

Dear Librarian: I would like to borrow the titles checked on this list:

READER'S NAME

ADDRESS

CITY POSTAL UNIT NO.

STATE

(SEE REVERSE SIDE)

Talking Book Topics

Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky,
The flying cloud, the frosty light:
The year is dying in the night;
Ring out, wild bells, and let him die.

Ring out the old, ring in the new,
Ring, happy bells, across the snow:
The year is going, let him go;
Ring out the false, ring in the true.

Ring in the valiant man and free,
The larger heart, the kindlier hand;
Ring out the darkness of the land,
Ring in the Christ that is to be.

Tennyson, In Memoriam

DECEMBER : : : 1948

VOL. XIV *Issued Quarterly by the* NO. 3

AMERICAN FOUNDATION *for the* BLIND, Inc.
15 WEST 16th STREET • NEW YORK 11, N. Y.

Entered as second-class matter June 11, 1936, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of August 24, 1912.

Talking Book Topics

VOL. XIV, NO. 3 DECEMBER, 1948

The American Foundation for the Blind is a national agency the purpose of which is to promote increasingly and uncompromisingly the interests of all the blind throughout the United States, in close cooperation with all local organizations.

TALKING BOOK TOPICS is issued by the Foundation in inkprint, and in Talking Book form, four times a year—in March, June, September, and December. A printed copy is sent to all readers, free of charge, to aid you in requesting titles from your regular distributing library. There is a subscription price of $1 a year for the recorded edition.

If you can afford the yearly subscription price of $1 in order to receive the magazine in recorded form, please tear out the coupon in this issue, have it filled in, and mail it to the Talking Book Department of the American Foundation for the Blind, 15 West 16th Street, New York 11, New York, accompanied by your remittance.

Enclosed find the sum of $1.00 to cover one year's subscription for the recorded edition of TALKING BOOK TOPICS. Please send this magazine to:

SUBSCRIBER'S NAME .....

STREET ADDRESS .....

CITY .....

POSTAL UNIT NO. .....

STATE .....

NEW TALKING BOOKS

The following Talking Books, recently recorded for the Library of Congress, may now be borrowed from your regular distributing library.

AFB—*American Foundation for the Blind, New York, N. Y.*
APH—*American Printing House for the Blind, Louisville, Ky.*

FICTION

Balzac, Honoré de—PERE GORIOT—translated by E. K. Brown *(Modern Library, 1946)*—20 records—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

First published in 1834, this is the history of a modern Lear. Père Goriot, a retired manufacturer of vermicelli, having married his daughters, Anastasie and Delphine, to noblemen, is abandoned by them after he has settled on them his whole fortune. Even to see them he is reduced to the extremity of watching on the street to get a glimpse of their beloved faces as they drive by. The daughters, mere devotees of fashion, treat the poor old man with increasing barbarity, until, knowing that he is on his death-bed, they both attend a ball, though he beseeches them to come to him. He is buried by charitable acquaintances; and as the body is brought from the church, the empty coaches of the daughters fall in behind and follow it to the grave. Crowded with incident, and made profoundly interesting by its merciless fidelity of characterization, this is one of the most brilliant of Balzac's long succession of novels.

Barringer, Leslie—GERFALCON *(Doubleday, 1926)*—22 records—read by Morris Fleurnoy APH

The hero of this spirited romance of medieval times is a young baron whose uncle holds his barony in wardship and denies him his rights. The pale slim Raoul has courage to escape and seek aid from greater nobles in the land. Adventures come swiftly and lead him finally to the castle of Ger to claim his rights. His uncle is forced to render him his heritage and in the troublous years that follow, Raoul is to all forest thieves and evil-doers whatsoever, "the black gerfalcon in eyrie on the crags of windy Ger."

Breslin, Howard—THE TAMARACK TREE *(Whittlesey House, 1947)*—26 records—read by William Lazar AFB

"The tamarack tree (larch to the uninitiated) stood isolated in a huge clearing high on Stratton Mountain in Vermont. Here the lordly Daniel Webster made a two-hour oration before some twenty thousand Vermonters at one of the mass rallies of the frenzied log-cabin and hard-cider campaign of 1840. And the alcohol in the cider released the emotions and convention-bound inhibitions of many reticent farmers, to provide the proper romance and tragedy for this costume drama. It mixes all the accepted ingredients according to the accepted formula, but maybe that is unfair to the novel. After all, the ingredients are standard because they make a palatable cake; and when properly blended they are unobtrusive. So it is with this novel. It is pleasant, readable, and unpretentious." —John Lydenberg, *Saturday Review of Literature.*

Churchill, Winston—RICHARD CARVEL *(Macmillan, 1899)*—37 records—read by George Walsh APH

It has been said of the "American" Winston Churchill that his only idiosyncrasy as a writer was to see that there was almost always a "C" somewhere in the title of his novels. Those novels, as William Allen White remarked, "sold in carload lots." *Richard Carvel* alone sold over a million copies. It carried its gallant hero through events in Maryland, Ireland and London, preliminary to the Revolution, showed him in the service of John Paul Jones, and gave the reader studious glimpses of Horace Walpole, David Garrick and Charles James Fox. Carl Van Doren has summed up Churchill's place in American literature by saying that he "came when romance was in that ascendant mood which attended the war with Spain. In Mr. Churchill the national imagination found a romancer full of consolation to any who might fear or suspect that the country's history did not quite match its destiny."

Feuchtwanger, Lion—PROUD DESTINY—translated from the German by Moray Firth *(Viking, 1947)*—57 records—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

"The theme of this astonishing narrative is the first fatal impact on the old order in Europe of the new order rising beyond the At-

lantic in the United States of America. The place is Paris, political capital of France, cultural capital of Europe. The time is the twenty-one months from May of 1776 to February 1778. The chief actors are Pierre Caron de Beaumarchais, Benjamin Franklin, the Count of Vergennes, Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette. The story is the history of those months from the arrival of Silas Deane in Paris, as the American representative, until the winter afternoon when Franklin, a treaty of commerce and alliance signed and safe in his portfolio, 'slowly descended, step by step, and behind him his vast shadow fell upon the great staircase, carpeted with snow and shining in the sun, of the Palace of Versailles'—a piece of symbolism that brings to a bravura close the whole colorful and intricate work."—George Genzmer, *Book-of-the-Month Club News.*

Hilton, James—Nothing So Strange *(Little, Brown, 1947)*—19 records—read by Ann Tyrrell AFB

This is the story of two modern people—a young American who, both as a scientist and as a man, faced some of the biggest problems of our times; and the girl who gave him all her heart and brain. When Jane met Dr. Mark Bradley in London she was only eighteen. She and her mother were both attracted by "Brad," and the situation thus engendered proved fateful, since it led to Brad's association with a great Viennese physicist and to his involvement in a tragic drama. But there was another drama, larger and less personal, that drew him into its widening orbit, a drama that became a secret and later an obsession. Probing yet protective, Jane's love makes the strong thread in a pattern of significant events—strange events, too—and yet, there is often "nothing so strange" as the truth.

Kester, Vaughan—The Prodigal Judge *(Bobbs-Merrill, 1911)*—27 records—read by Hugh Fellows AFB

This book, considered its author's most important novel, appeared in 1911, the year of his death. Kester lived long enough to know that it had made a definite impression on the critics—some of whom were slightly scandalized by its melodramatics and by the roguery of Uncle Bob Yancy, the judge—as well as being eagerly read by a novel reading public then unaccustomed to such stimulating fare. Although the book seems rather old-fashioned today,

it was at the time of its publication a genuine contribution to the shelves of American regional fiction, as well as a faithful picture of the manners, customs, and dialects of North Carolina and Tennessee of the 1830's.

Lewis, Sinclair—DODSWORTH *(Harcourt, Brace, 1929)*—27 records—read by House Jameson AFB

Sinclair Lewis is as authentically American as the Model T Ford. The union in him of crude vigor and moral earnestness, of tireless activity and comic verve, have won him international favor as realist and satirist. Yet *Dodsworth,* a novel almost devoid of satire, is perhaps the most completely successful of his novels. Sam Dodsworth is successful, friendly, human and likeable, too busy and too much in love with his wife to be discontented. At fifty, he sells his automobile business and, with his still beautiful and expensive wife, goes abroad on an indefinite holiday to seek the things which he feels he has missed and which his wife desires. The bitterness and disillusion of that venture are described in one of Lewis's finest studies of human relationships.

Parrish, Anne—THE PERENNIAL BACHELOR *(Harper, 1925)*—16 records—read by Ann Tyrrell AFB

The story of the decadence of an American family, the Campions, and an ironic picture of an age in America, its manners, clothes, games, food, and songs. It begins just before the Civil War when the family are well-to-do and living in their fine house, The Maples, somewhere in Delaware, and ends in the present when the hero is an old beau, laughed at by the modern, emancipated, sophisticated younger generation.

Turnbull, Agnes Sligh—THE BISHOP'S MANTLE *(Macmillan, 1947)*—28 records—read by George Patterson APH

"At nine o'clock on a bright March morning a young man in his first thirties walked slowly along High Street." This young man is Hilary Laurens, beginning his ministry at St. Matthew's, a large, fashionable city church. Idealistic and genuinely religious, he is in love with a beautiful girl who ultimately marries him, but who finds it hard to exchange her gay times with the smart young social set for the conservative demands of a rectory. The way in which Hilary and Alexa work out their personal problems, however, is only one

thread in the story. For here you will go behind the scenes and see those happenings in a big city parish of which the average layman is entirely unaware.

COLLECTIONS

Forster, E. M.—The Collected Tales of E. M. Forster *(Knopf, 1947)*—16 records—read by John Brewster AFB

Edward Morgan Forster, one of the foremost living English writers, was born in 1879 of mixed English and Welsh ancestry. His writing is remarkable, among other qualities, for its convincing evocations, not only of England, but also of such scenes of his travels as Italy, Egypt, and India. His shorter fiction has long been out of print in the United States and the present edition brings into one volume the contents of two earlier collections, *The Celestial Omnibus* and *The Eternal Moment.* The stories included are: *The Story of a Panic, The Other Side of the Hedge, The Celestial Omnibus, Other Kingdom, The Curate's Friend, The Road from Colonus, The Machine Stops, The Point of It, Mr. Andrews, Co-ordination, The Story of the Siren,* and *The Eternal Moment.*

MYSTERY AND DETECTIVE

Collins, Mary—Death Warmed Over *(Scribner's, 1947)*—11 records—read by Terry Hayes APH

Here is one of the most attractive sleuths-by-accident in crime fiction: Janey Jeffries, a lovely young bride, a girl who speaks her mind and always entertainingly, who will cheerfully take big risks to satisfy her immense curiosity. Temporarily established in a depressing Los Angeles boarding house, Janey finds herself suddenly involved in a three-murder mystery. She starts playing detective with enthusiasm; and a heavy blow on the head, another even closer flirt with death, and the weary protestations of Lieutenant Roche do not quell her.

Crane, Frances—Murder on the Purple Water *(Random House, 1947)*—12 records—read by Kay Parker AFB

To find real sport there's nothing so handy as a charter fishing

boat in the purple Gulf Stream off Key West. But someone in rich Dixon Whitehead's overloaded fishing party on the *Margaret* was after more than fish. Which is why the corpse of that aging but still handsome lothario, Gerald Deane, was discovered in the cabin after the party docked. Cy Martingale, skipper of the *Margaret,* asked the Abbotts, Pat and Jean, who were stopping in Key West at the time, to help find the murderer. Working with Bill Jonas, Captain of Police, the Abbotts risk their necks to disclose the amazing solution to as neat a puzzle as Frances Crane has ever penned.

ADVENTURE AND TRAVEL

Bodley, R. V. C.—WIND IN THE SAHARA *(Creative Age Press, 1944)*—20 records—read by the Author AFB

With little more than an urge to escape from a world which had learned no lesson from the First World War and was drifting into greater disaster than in 1914, Ronald V. C. Bodley went to the Sahara Desert. He wanted simply to join the nomadic tribes among whom Lawrence of Arabia had assured him he would find peace of mind. He did not return for seven years. He detached himself completely from all home ties and made a tent his permanent home, wore Arab clothes and practiced the Moslem faith. He tells of these years of adventure, of romance and of the peace he found among his Arab friends. He has managed to include a mass of information about the intimate side of the Arabs' lives, their marriages, their love affairs, their traditions and history, and also their future in the new world now being created.

BIOGRAPHY

Middleton, George—THESE THINGS ARE MINE: The Autobiography of a Journeyman Playwright *(Macmillan, 1947)* —34 records—read by William Gladden APH

To the zestful author of this autobiography the fun of being a playwright, aside from its rewards, lay in sensing the drama in the many unusual happenings he saw or was part of, starting with a vividly recalled youth in New York City. After his marriage to Fola LaFollette, George Middleton's interest was intensified in the

Washington political scene, Greenwich Village causes, and feminist campaigns, combined with other fascinating associations which the freedom of the literary life made possible. He frankly discloses how these, with more intimate personal experiences, frequently inspired his plays.

HISTORY

Byrnes, James F.—Speaking Frankly *(Harper, 1947)*—28 records—read by Kermit Murdock AFB

"Mr. Byrnes writes with surprising candor; the informal account of his role in the making of recent history has none of the reticence of many diplomatic memoirs. The verbatim reporting of conversations among Roosevelt, Truman, Churchill, Stalin, Molotov and others makes the reader feel himself a participant at the conference tables. The justification for speaking frankly on subjects that were discussed behind closed doors—and which many statesmen might think should be kept secret until years hence—is Mr. Byrnes' thesis that most international misunderstandings would vanish 'if it were possible to give the people of this world an actual, rather than a figurative seat at the peace conference table.' "—*U. S. Quarterly Book List.*

Lamb, Harold—The Crusades: The Flame of Islam *(Doubleday, 1931)*—30 records—read by John Knight AFB

This volume is a sequel to *The Crusades: Iron Men and Saints* (19 r.—John Knight AFB 1940) and describes the exciting struggles for supremacy in the Holy Land from the epic encounters of Richard the Lion-Hearted with Saladin the Wise, to the final conquests of the blond giant, Baibars. To quote one review: "Mr. Lamb catches the impetus of this brave, headlong insanity and his narrative is bright with color and swift in action."

Shirer, William L.—End of a Berlin Diary *(Knopf, 1947)*—26 records—read by Walter Gerard APH

This is the continuation and, Mr. Shirer hopes, the conclusion of *Berlin Diary* (33 r.—read by the Author and Alwyn Bach AFB

1941). He had left Berlin at the end of 1940 with slight expectation of returning. But when the news of the war's end flashed over the wires, Shirer was standing in the noisy, crowded CBS news room. He wrote in his diary: "Now the desperate and heroic days are over. Peace will be sweet, yes; but the adjustment to it will take some time and bring much disillusionment." Mr. Shirer could not make this adjustment without returning once more to Berlin. As he puts it, "I went back to find out what happened after I left." So here is the record of how he tracked down the Nazi secrets.

Trevor-Roper, H. R.—THE LAST DAYS OF HITLER *(Macmillan, 1947)*—20 records—read by Eugene O'Neill, Jr. AFB

In September, 1945, when the whole world was wondering if Hitler was dead, H. R. Trevor-Roper, an English historian, was ordered to find the truth about the Gotterdämmerung of the Fuehrer and his fantastic followers. In this book he tells what he learned from interviews with those who witnessed the incredible events, and from hitherto secret documents. In his foreword to this book, Lord Tedder, Marshal of the R.A.F., says: "Mr. Trevor-Roper has produced a piece of history which is as living as it is accurate, and as monumental as the scale of events he recalls. There is no possibility of distortion in this case. Mr. Trevor-Roper's story sets the seal on Nuremberg."

MEDICINE

Dunbar, Dr. Flanders—MIND AND BODY: PSYCHOSOMATIC MEDICINE *(Random House, 1947)*—20 records—read by Eugene O'Neill, Jr. AFB

"Psychosomatic (mind-body) medicine has made tremendous strides in the last few years, but it is not a theory hit upon in modern times. The Romans had a phrase for it, 'a sound mind in a sound body,' and various pseudo-scientific or quack practitioners have made dangerous use of it all down the ages. Today it stands firmly on scientific foundations. Dr. Dunbar, of the Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, has written a clear and straight-forward book on the subject designed for the layman. *Mind and Body* is no cheery little volume insuring health and hap-

piness by 'better thinking' or other such nebulous rigmarole, but it is one that will make clear the importance of the mind-body equilibrium for the individual and for the community."—Graham Bates, *Book-of-the-Month Club News.*

MUSIC

Affelder, Paul—How To Build A Record Library: A Guide to Planned Collecting of Recorded Music—with a Foreword by Sigmund Spaeth *(Dutton, 1947)*—15 records—read by James Walton APH

The principal problem of the initiate in approaching classical music is where to start. Paul Affelder's solution is simple: start with the music you know and love, and progress from there, through music of a related nature, to more highly developed compositions. Starting with such popular works as the *Blue Danube Waltz,* the book takes the reader through various stages up to the late Beethoven quartets and whole acts of Wagner operas. There are chapters on the symphony, concerto and fugue, covering a representative collection of masterworks in large form, and which induct the collector into the hitherto "special field of chamber music," and finally direct the listener into those bypaths which will prove most rewarding for the experienced collector. Further aids include four ready-made basic record libraries; discussions on how to care for and store records; and the step-by-step story of how a record is made—from the recording studio to the finished product.

PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED

Carlson, Earl R.—Born That Way *(John Day, 1941)*—9 records—read by Paul Clark APH

This book tells the life story of a man with one familiar type of severe handicap—the one commonly known as a spastic—who has so trained himself that he is now a specialist in that field and has been consulted by more than eight thousand spastics or their parents. Dr. Carlson was so injured at birth that he never has had the full and assured use of his muscles. In his eating, for many years he never knew for certain whether he would succeed in bringing food to his mouth or whether his ill-controlled hand would throw it

over his shoulder. He was not even master of his organs of speech, nor always of his eyes. Yet somehow he found work, somehow struggled through medical school, and established himself in a medical practice which he has devoted to treating others similarly handicapped.

POETRY

Browning, Elizabeth Barrett—SONNETS FROM THE PORTUGUESE—2 records—read by Ann Tyrrell AFB

The romance of Elizabeth Barrett Browning and Robert Browning is one of the great love stories of the world. It has been effectively dramatized in Rudolf Besier's *The Barretts of Wimpole Street* (AFB 1941) in which Ann Tyrrell played the part of Elizabeth. This recording by Miss Tyrrell of the famous sonnet sequence which Mrs. Browning presented to her husband while they were living in Italy, makes an appropriate pendant to the play.

RELIGION

Taft, Charles P.—WHY I AM FOR THE CHURCH: Talks on Religion and Politics *(Farrar, Straus, 1947)*—7 records—read by Morris Fleurnoy APH

Charles Phelps Taft is the younger son of former President William Howard Taft. He practices law in Cincinnati and is prominent in civic and religious affairs. He is the first layman to hold the office of president of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America; he is also president of the National Social Welfare Assembly. In these pages he explains the conclusions he has evolved over many years. He offers a dynamic interpretation of the Christian faith as it may be applied to the needs of modern living. Mr. Taft points the way to a Christian standard of personal and public conduct, in relation to politics, law, labor problems, social welfare, and the essential dignity of every man.

UNITED STATES

Gunther, John—INSIDE U.S.A. *(Harper, 1947)*—97 records—read by Robert Donley AFB

"That peripatetic digester of continents, John Gunther, has at last come home. This latest and longest of his famous series, is to my

mind the most ambitious and the best. In these half million words the hardest-working of contemporary American reporters attempts the impossible task of transnavigating the forty-eight states and 14,-000,000 people that make up 'the greatest, craziest, most dangerous, least stable, most spectacular, least grown-up, and most powerful and magnificent nation ever known.' If any single book can tell us what it means to be an American citizen, in concrete and current detail, *Inside U.S.A.* is it."—Clifton Fadiman, *Book-of-the-Month Club News.*

Havighurst, Walter—LAND OF PROMISE: The Story of the Northwest Territory *(Macmillan, 1946)*—27 records—read by Eugene Earl AFB

"Persuasively blending affection and authority, Mr. Havighurst has succeeded in producing what is probably the best single volume popular account in English of the country's heartland, the 'landscape of democracy.' The author's method is not rigidly historical, but rather anecdotal and impressionistic; yet the total effect is not at all scattered. He has given it a pleasing unity and, except for a trace here and there of regional sentimentality, has clothed it in a prose that is often eloquent and always more than competent." —L. S. McTaggert, *Book-of-the-Month Club News*

Peattie, Roderick (Ed.)—THE SIERRA NEVADA: The Range of Light—with an Introduction by Donald Culross Peattie *(Vanguard, 1947)*—22 records—read by Eugene Earl AFB

"The range of the Sierra Nevada—not Sierra Nevadas or Sierra Nevada mountains—vies with the Rockies for first place as the most spectacular range in the United States. Californians are not ones readily to relinquish the palm to Coloradoans, and their case for the Sierra Nevada is well stated and superbly illustrated in this work. Following an Introduction by the editor are ten chapters which describe the Sierra Nevada from its foothills to its highest peaks. Various specialists write competent and readable chapters on the geology, the flora and fauna, early settlers and still resident miners, Sierra winter sports, and mountaineering. The last chapter contains a breath-taking account of the ascent of the Lost Arrow, an isolated pinnacle in the Yosemite. The book as a whole is a worthy addition to the American Mountain Series."—*U. S. Quarterly Book List.*

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

FRENCH

The following titles, read by Robert Franc of the staff of The Voice of America, were recorded for the American Foundation for Overseas Blind for use by blind individuals in France. Believing that there are people in this country who may be interested in them, either because they speak French or because they are students of the language, the Library of Congress is making them available through the distributing libraries.

Balzac, Honoré de—Les Chouans—25 records AFB

Fromentin, Eugène—Dominique—17 records AFB

Lafforest, Roger de—Les Figurants De La Mort—10 records AFB

Montesquieu—Lettres Persanes—19 records AFB

Voltaire, François Marie Arouet de—Zadig: ou La Destinée —6 records AFB

SPECIAL RELEASE

The Truth About Adversity and I See!—From the Christian Science Journal and Sentinel—1 record—read by Harry Browne AFB

The Christian Science Publishing Society asks us to announce that a new Talking Book is available containing two articles on Christian Science reproduced from *The Christian Science Journal,* the official organ of the First Church of Christ, Scientist in Boston, Massachusetts. Copies of the record will be available in the regular distributing libraries where they may be borrowed, or they may be purchased from the Christian Science Publishing Society, One, Norway Street, Boston 15, Mass.

CHECK THE TITLES YOU WISH TO BORROW, DETACH THE LIST AND MAIL IT TO YOUR TALKING BOOK LIBRARY—**NOT TO THE FOUNDATION.**

Talking Books should be borrowed from your nearest regional distributing library. All libraries have the same collections, so do not attempt to borrow records from more than one of these libraries.

- ☐ Affelder—How To Build A Record Library—15 r. APH
- ☐ Balzac—Les Chouans (French)—25 r. AFB
- ☐ Balzac—Pere Goriot—20 r. AFB
- ☐ Barringer—Gerfalcon—22 r. APH
- ☐ Bodley—Wind in the Sahara—20 r. AFB
- ☐ Breslin—The Tamarack Tree—26 r. AFB
- ☐ Browning—Sonnets From the Portuguese—2 r. AFB
- ☐ Byrnes—Speaking Frankly—28 r. AFB
- ☐ Carlson—Born That Way—9 r. APH
- ☐ Churchill—Richard Carvel—37 r. APH
- ☐ Collins—Death Warmed Over—11 r. APH
- ☐ Crane—Murder on the Purple Water—12 r. AFB
- ☐ Dunbar—Mind and Body: Psychosomatic Medicine—20 r. AFB
- ☐ Feuchtwanger—Proud Destiny—57 r. AFB
- ☐ Forster—The Collected Tales of E. M. Forster—16 r. AFB
- ☐ Fromentin—Dominique (French)—17 r. AFB
- ☐ Gunther—Inside U.S.A.—97 r. AFB
- ☐ Havighurst—Land of Promise—27 r. AFB
- ☐ Hilton—Nothing So Strange—19 r. AFB
- ☐ Kester—The Prodigal Judge—27 r. AFB
- ☐ Lafforest—Les Figurants De La Mort (French)—10 r. AFB
- ☐ Lamb—The Crusades: The Flame of Islam—30 r. AFB
- ☐ Lewis—Dodsworth—27 r. AFB
- ☐ Middleton—These Things Are Mine—34 r. APH
- ☐ Montesquieu—Lettres Persanes (French)—19 r. AFB
- ☐ Parrish—The Perennial Bachelor—16 r. AFB
- ☐ Peattie—The Sierra Nevada—22 r. AFB

(SEE REVERSE SIDE)

Miss Esther Mitchell
2001 Orchard Ave.
Ogden, Utah

- ☐ Shirer—End of a Berlin Diary—26 r. APH
- ☐ Taft—Why I Am For The Church—7 r. APH
- ☐ Trevor-Roper—The Last Days of Hitler—20 r. AFB
- ☐ Turnbull—The Bishop's Mantle—28 r. APH
- ☐ The Truth About Adversity & I See!—1 r. AFB
- ☐ Voltaire—Zadig (French)—6 r. AFB
- ☐ Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine—October, November, December, 1948 APH
- ☐ Reader's Digest—October, November, December, 1948 APH
- ☐ Talking Book Topics—March, June, September, December, 1948 AFB

Dear Librarian: I would like to borrow the titles checked on this list:

READER'S NAME

ADDRESS

CITY POSTAL UNIT NO.

STATE

(SEE REVERSE SIDE)

Checked 8/28/06

TALKING BOOK TOPICS

VOL. XIV, NO. 4 MARCH, 1949

Issued Quarterly By the
AMERICAN FOUNDATION *for the* BLIND, Inc.
15 WEST 16th STREET • NEW YORK 11, N. Y.

Entered as second-class matter June 11, 1936, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of August 24, 1912.

Talking Book Topics

VOL. XIV, NO. 4 MARCH, 1949

The American Foundation for the Blind is a national agency the purpose of which is to promote increasingly and uncompromisingly the interests of all the blind throughout the United States, in close cooperation with all local organizations.

TALKING BOOK TOPICS is issued by the Foundation in inkprint, and in Talking Book form, four times a year—in March, June, September, and December. A printed copy is sent to all readers, free of charge, to aid you in requesting titles from your regular distributing library. There is a subscription price of $1 a year for the recorded edition.

If you can afford the yearly subscription price of $1 in order to receive the magazine in recorded form, please tear out the coupon in this issue, have it filled in, and mail it to the Talking Book Department of the American Foundation for the Blind, 15 West 16th Street, New York 11, New York, accompanied by your remittance.

Enclosed find the sum of $1.00 to cover one year's subscription for the recorded edition of TALKING BOOK TOPICS. Please send this magazine to:

SUBSCRIBER'S NAME _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

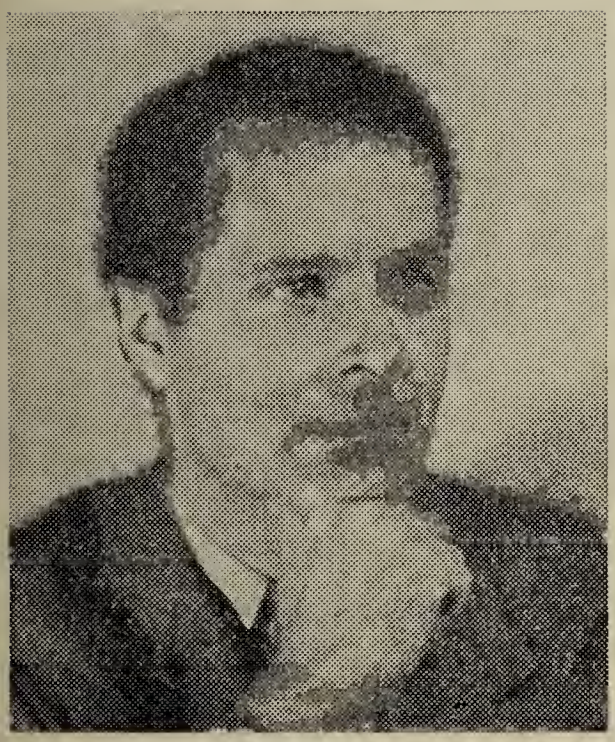
CITY _____

POSTAL UNIT NO. _____

STATE _____

JOHN KNIGHT
1934

HOUSE JAMESON
1936



ALEXANDER SCOURBY
1937

JOHN BREWSTER
1941

Talking Book Readers

AMERICAN FOUNDATION *for the* BLIND

March '49

BRAILLE CONTEST HELD

On Saturday, January 29, 1949, the American Foundation for the Blind sponsored the first braille reading contest to be held in the United States. Over 65 contestants from 14 cities, as far west as Champaign, Illinois, and Detroit, Michigan, competed in this test of skill.

The morning session, from 9 to 12, was devoted to selecting the contenders for the finals which were held in the afternoon from 3 to 5. The contestants were divided into three groups which did not compete with each other. The first group consisted of young people up to seventeen years of age; the second, of men and women who had learned to read braille in later life; and the third, of adults who had learned to read braille before the age of seventeen.

In the afternoon, the three best in each group appeared before a special panel of judges made up of Clifton Fadiman, the noted critic and radio personality; Miss Helen Hayes, the distinguished actress; Miss Emily Kimbrough, author and lecturer; Professor Helen G. Hicks of the Speech and Dramatics Department of Hunter College; and Miss Jane Rose, Director of Educational Activities at the Lighthouse for the Blind.

The readers read aloud before the judges, who rated them on their fluency, diction, interpretation, and poise. The audience was held enthralled by the high level of performance displayed. Cash prizes were awarded to the winners on the basis of their relative merit and, in addition, a silver loving cup was presented to the winner of the first prize in each group.

So successful was the contest that the Foundation hopes to make it an annual event. We take this opportunity to congratulate the winners in this year's competition and we invite all other braille readers in the country to brush up on their skill in anticipation of an even more successful contest in 1950.

NEW TALKING BOOKS

The following Talking Books, recently recorded for the Library of Congress, may now be borrowed from your regular distributing library.

AFB—*American Foundation for the Blind, New York, N. Y.*

APH—*American Printing House for the Blind, Louisville, Kentucky.*

THE HOLY BIBLE

The first recordings made in the Talking Book studios of the American Foundation for the Blind were the four Gospels, released to the libraries in 1934. During the next ten years, through the cooperation of the American Bible Society, the other Books of the Bible were added until, in 1944, the complete King James Version was available on Talking Book records in 169 records. During the course of the years, however, with the improvement in recording techniques and in standards of Talking Book reading, some of the earlier Books of the Bible have been made to seem unsatisfactory. Numerous requests have been received for a new edition of The Psalms, The Proverbs and the four Gospels. Finally (and once again with the cooperation of the American Bible Society) we are able to offer a new recording of these Books, which the Library of Congress is placing in all the distributing libraries. They are read by Alexander Scourby, the most popular choice of the Talking Book borrowers for reader.

The Old Testament (King James Version):

THE BOOK OF PSALMS—9 records—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

THE PROVERBS—4 records—read by Alexander Scourby AFB (*in one container*)

The New Testament (King James Version):

THE GOSPEL OF ST. MATTHEW—5 records—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

THE GOSPEL OF ST. MARK—3 records—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

THE GOSPEL OF ST. LUKE—5 records—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

THE GOSPEL OF ST. JOHN—4 records—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

(in one container)

FICTION

AESOP'S FABLES—A New Version by Munro Leaf *(Heritage Press, 1941)*—4 records—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

Once upon a time, in ancient Greece, a man named Iadmon owned a black slave. He was called the Ethiop, or Aesop. Like many servants, Aesop had the happy faculty of being able to talk himself out of his difficulties by telling his master amusing stories. Of course, as he told them, they had to do mainly with the birds and beasts of the field and forest, but their meaning was so clear that no one could mistake their application to human follies and frailties. In this edition of the famous fables, the creator of *Ferdinand*, the bull, has written a new version in modern conversational English which will have a fresh appeal for those children and grown-ups who are tired of the obsolete and archaic style in which they are usually found.

Bates, H. E.—THE PURPLE PLAIN *(Little, Brown, 1947)*—16 records—read by Kenneth Meeker APH

This is the story of a young British pilot who wanted desperately to die. Then he met Anna, the exquisite Burmese girl whose "paleness was so pure and soft that she seemed to have kept all her life out of the sun," whose love charged him with the determination to live and to help others to live. On the central plain of Burma, far away from where the war was being fought, Forrester was to encounter those periods of strenuous, unselfish action, those brief, all-important moments that would free him from apathy and disillusionment.

Bellamy, Edward—Looking Backward: 2000-1887 *(Modern Library)*—17 records—read by George Patterson APH

Few books in the annals of American literature have exercised so far-reaching an influence in awakening interest in the social order as has Bellamy's utopian novel, first published in 1888. It recounts the strange experiences of Julian West, a wealthy young Bostonian who is put into a hypnotic sleep in 1887. In the year 2000, Dr. Leete, a retired physician, discovers and resuscitates the young man, who finds himself in a regenerated world. Though written in the form of a novel, the author intended it "in all seriousness, as a forecast, in accordance with the principles of evolution, of the next stage in the industrial and social development of humanity," especially in the United States. Some of his prophecies have been fulfilled with startling accuracy.

Crane, Stephen—The Red Badge of Courage *(Appleton-Century, 1925)*—9 records—read by George Patterson APH

First published in 1895, this book attracted a great deal of attention by reason of the subject and of the author's extreme youth. It is a study of a man's feeling in battle. Henry Fleming, an unsophisticated country boy, enthusiastic to serve his country, enlists at the beginning of the Civil War. Young, raw, intense, he longs to show his patriotism, to prove himself a hero. Suddenly, pell-mell, he is thrown into battle, gets frightened to death in the thick of it, and runs; after the fun is over, crawls back to his regiment fairly vicious with unpardonable shame. The heroic visions fade; but the boy makes one step towards manhood through his wholesome lesson. In his next battle courage links itself to him like a brother-in-arms. He tests and is tested, goes into the thick of the fight like a howling demon, goes indeed to hell, and comes back again, steadied and quiet.

Crawford, F. Marion—Zoroaster *(Macmillan, 1885)*—15 records—read by Lauren Gilbert AFB

This tale of Persia begins about 550 B.C. with a magnificent description of Belshazzar's feast and the sudden and awful ending of the latter by the marvelous writing on the wall. From that point the story moves in a series of dramatic scenes to trace the unhappy outcome of the love story of Zoroaster, Persian soldier and scholar.

DuBois, William—THE ISLAND IN THE SQUARE *(Farrar, Straus, 1947)*—23 records—read by Douglass Parkhirst AFB

The story of a man's dream told against the exciting background of the newspaper and theatrical worlds of New York in the twenties. The death of Stephen Clay, veteran newspaperman, causes Larry Dodd to pause and review his life, which had been so largely influenced by Clay. Larry is drama critic on the New York *Record* and an aspiring dramatist; his story is that of the familiar conflict between the lure of journalism and the desire to make a career of creative writing.

Irving, Washington—THE ALHAMBRA *(1852)*—26 records—read by Kermit Murdock AFB

This Spanish Sketch-Book grew out of the experiences and studies of Irving, while an actual resident in the old royal palace of the Moors at Granada. Many of the forty sketches have their foundation only in the author's fancy, but others are veritable history. It was his object, he says in describing scenes then almost unknown, to present a faithful and living picture of that singular little world in which he found himself, and to depict its half-Spanish, half-Oriental character, its mixture of the heroic, the poetic, and the grotesque.

James, Henry—WASHINGTON SQUARE *(1880)*—13 records—read by John Brewster AFB

"*Washington Square* has frequently been James' favorite novel with readers who don't really like James. Its method is much simpler than the one he used later, since its concentrates on the single tension caused between Catherine Sloper and her father by his opposition to her marriage. Some critics have objected to the title on the ground that there is hardly enough of the city in the book to justify it. James' center of interest was unquestionably his heroine, but he made her very different from the young girls in *The Europeans.* He endowed her with none of the usual charm of his heroines, and began by describing her as 'plain' and 'dull.' He then proceeded to develop her, through her unshakable devotion to her one deluded love, into a woman of heroic dignity. The book might more ac-

curately have been called by her name, and he may very well have taken a backward glance at Eugènie Grandet for a model of such goodness of heart."—F. O. Matthiessen, Introduction to *The American Novels and Stories of Henry James.*

Keyes, Frances Parkinson—Came A Cavalier *(Julian Messner, 1947)*—42 records—read by Burt Blackwell APH

This is the story of Constance Galt, a beautiful girl whose faith in mankind has been shattered by an unhappy love affair. Service in France, as a "searcher" for the American Red Cross at the end of World War I, broadens her horizon. But it is with the *coming of a cavalier*—Tristan de Fremond, a French cavalry officer of irresistible attractions—that her existence is completely transformed. The happiness of her marriage has a lasting effect upon her character; her quest becomes a conquest. When the Second World War brings with it the destruction of almost everyone and everything she holds dear, her own steadfastness and courage enable her to assure the continuance of a family and the survival of a home, both of which would have perished but for her.

McCrone, Guy—Red Plush: The Story of the Moorhouse Family *(Farrar, Straus, 1947)*—42 records—read by Livingston Gilbert APH

"A novel of the old-time variety, a trilogy from Scotland in one volume and so engrossing one lives with it to the last word. It is about a well-to-do family in Glasgow in the Red Plush Era of Queen Victoria, but you will recognize all the people in it as your forbears of the same era wherever they lived. Dorothy Canfield says, 'It is a beautiful story, full of the meat of human life. But its beauty is not its most marked quality. What sets it apart is the extraordinary way in which the men and women in it live. At the end, after you close the book, you have their voices still in your ear, you catch an echo of the rustling of the voluminous skirts of the women, the firm step of the men. You are steadier, calmer, less nervously excitable, for having lived with them all through this long book.' "—*Book-of-the-Month Club News.*

Scott, Sir Walter—WAVERLEY *(Dutton)*—33 records—read by Morris Fleurnoy APH

This, the first of the world-famous series of romances to which it gives the title, was published in 1814. The author withheld his name at first, from doubt as to the success of the venture. It is a tale of the rebellion of the Chevalier Prince Charles Edward (Bonnie Prince Charlie), in Scotland in 1745. The hero is Captain Edward Waverley of Waverley Honor. His adventures are described, first as a captain in the royal army, later as a partisan of the Pretender.

COLLECTIONS

Mitchell, Edwin Valentine, *Ed.*—GREAT FISHING STORIES *(Doubleday, 1946)*—14 records—read by Eugene Earl AFB

With stories ranging in subject matter from angling in Scotland to big-game fishing off the Florida coast, this unusual anthology of eighteen tales covers the whole range, from bent pin to tarpon tackle, of the world's oldest and most popular sport. Some of the authors represented are Ernest Hemingway, Henry van Dyke, Philip Wylie, Irving Bacheller, Zane Grey, and John Taintor Foote. Their stories will be enjoyed by all those who, when they can't fish, like to read about fishing.

Pearce, T. M. *and* Thomason, A. P., *Eds.*—SOUTHWESTERNERS WRITE: The American Southwest in Stories and Articles by Thirty-Two Contributors *(University of New Mexico Press, 1946)*—24 records—read by Livingston Gilbert APH

An anthology of thirty-two stories and articles displaying the intermingled patterns of living and contrasting currents of thought in the modern civilization of Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona. Presenting writers noted for their ability to express the dynamic life of the Southwest, the book opens on a brief introduction which treats of types of writing in the region. It then proceeds to contents divided into four parts: vivid *Interpretation,* fast-paced *Fiction,* engaging *Narrative,* and astute *Opinion.* This combination of creative writing and critical analysis represents the most professional period of literature the Southwest has attained.

ADVENTURE AND TRAVEL

Andrews, Roy Chapman—An Explorer Comes Home: Further Adventures of Roy Chapman Andrews *(Doubleday, 1947)*—15 records—read by John Knight AFB

Connecticut may seem a fairly uneventful place after Central Asia, but Dr. Andrews didn't find it so when he bought Pondwood Farm. Having found his way unerringly across the trackless wastes of the Gobi Desert, he got lost in his own back yard! Hundreds of thousands of dollars have been spent and many thousands of miles traversed in various parts of the world to find the origins of the prehistoric dinosaur. Yet Dr. Andrews found traces of dinosaurs on his own Connecticut farm. This book is about the people and animals at Pondwood Farm—Lord Jitters, the stone-deaf white Persian; Poke-Poke, the lazy little black Persian; and Queen, the dog. And it is about fishing and shooting and adventures in building.

Cable, Mildred *with* French, Francesca—The Gobi Desert *(Macmillan, 1944)*—27 records—read by Susan Steell AFB

This is probably one of the most unusual travel books published in a long time. Miss Cable is the rare sort of person who talks sympathetically with Moslems and Buddhists and all the different desert tribes. She made many journeys into the Gobi. The first followed the old Silk Road of Marco Polo. She has an eye for details and a great feeling for persons and atmosphere. She stays at Moslem inns. She describes the problems of hiring a carter; the clothes and customs of the desert tribes; journeys by moonlight into "the largest wilderness area on the globe"; desert plants; ruins and relics. Speaking Chinese fluently, she and her companions were able to make themselves understood everywhere, and made warm friends as they came and went. In short, she loved the desert and its people, and her book shows clearly why.

ANTHROPOLOGY

Linton, Ralph *and* Linton, Adelin—Man's Way, From Cave to

Skyscraper *(Harper, 1947)*—11 records—read by Paul Clark APH

Dr. Linton is Sterling Professor of Anthropology at Yale University. Mrs. Linton is a free lance writer of articles on subjects both anthropological and otherwise. Together, these authors present to today's young people not only the extraordinarily interesting facts of anthropology but also the great relevance of anthropology, as a way of thought as well as a subject, to clear thinking on today's problems in the world.

BIOGRAPHY

Fay, Bernard—THE TWO FRANKLINS: Fathers of American Democracy *(Little, Brown, 1933)*—21 records—read by Sidney Walton AFB

This author's *Franklin* is an outstanding biography of the revolutionary statesman. It is only as an old man that Benjamin Franklin appears in this book, which is a biography of his grandson, Benjamin Franklin Bache, and a history of the political party fights in the United States from 1785 to 1798. Bache was influential in the inception of that the author considers a second revolution—a change of mind during the decade 1790 to 1800, which led to the rise of the new Democratic-Republican party.

McCracken, Harold—FREDERIC REMINGTON: Artist of the Old West *(Lippincott, 1947)*—8 records—read by Walter Gerard APH

"More than any other person working with sketchbook or oil, Frederic Remington captured the vitality and color of the frontier West. This work opens with a biography which cannot be termed definitive but is comprehensive and covers Remington's career from his birth in 1861 to his early death at the age of forty-eight in 1909. After two years of art study at Yale University and following the death of his father, who left him a modest inheritance, Remington went west. In Arizona, Wyoming, the Dakotas, and Montana he discovered subjects for the sketches and paintings that were to make him famous—the ponies of the West, cowboys, Indians, and federal

troops. An important contribution to knowledge of the artist and illustrator, this work must be considered a source for any future study."—*U. S. Quarterly Book List.*

CHILD CARE

Spock, Benjamin, M.D.—THE COMMON SENSE BOOK OF BABY AND CHILD CARE *(Duell, Sloan & Pearce, 1946)*—34 records—read by Terry Hayes APH

"This is *the* book to bring parents up to date on the bringing up of children. Here, for the first time, is a book of infant and child care which combines basic physical and medical information with psychological interpretation, which makes available—and easily accessible—the evidence of the specialist and translates theory into the actuality of handling your child. Dr. Spock is never pedantic, never regimented, but reassuring, flexible, and interpretative—approaching childhood and parenthood in terms of the maximum ease and enjoyment."—*Virginia Kirkus Bookshop Service.*

EDUCATION

Fine, Benjamin—OUR CHILDREN ARE CHEATED *(Henry Holt, 1947)*—19 records—read by Eugene O'Neill, Jr. AFB

"This volume surveys the postwar educational scene in the United States. The author directs attention to major critical issues in American education from the kindergarten through the university. He opens his discussion with a chapter entitled School Breakdown, and follows with eighteen chapters dealing with the teacher problem, finance, inequalities in education, and higher education, with special emphasis upon the need for better teachers colleges. His final chapter, Conclusions and Recommendations, is a climax to the presentation of a series of cases against American education as it has been allowed to deteriorate since Pearl Harbor."—*U. S. Quarterly Book List.*

ESSAYS

Leacock, Stephen—MY REMARKABLE UNCLE *(Dodd, Mead, 1942)*—12 records—read by James Walton APH

"E.P.," as he was known to family and friends alike, was truly a remarkable character. During the Winnipeg boom days he was president of a bank (that never opened), head of a brewery (for brewing the Red River), and, above all, secretary-treasurer of the Winnipeg, Hudson's Bay and Arctic Circle Railway, which had a charter but no tracks. His delightful story heads this collection of sketches by one of the most beloved modern humorists. Here are autobiographical sketches—of Leacock's boyhood when he was being made into a "gentleman." Here are essays—cricket for Americans, Christmas shopping, this business of growing old—highly amusing, yet frequently full of wisdom.

Lewis, Lloyd—It Takes All Kinds *(Harcourt, Brace, 1947)*—15 records—read by George Patterson APH

These anecdotes, personality sketches, explorations of history, and tales of famous and obscure Americans have been collected from Mr. Lewis' newspaper and magazine writings of over two decades. In time they range from the Civil War to the Louis-Conn fight of 1946. Baseball, the theatre, politics, authors, cowboys, and "characters" are among the subjects. How "Boston" Corbett shot John Wilkes Booth; how Carl Sandburg made Sinclair Lewis weep; why the *New York Times* was frightened when Mrs. Albert Einstein mistook an orchid corsage for a salad and ate it; why Lloyd Lewis did not strike out Eisenhower at West Point in 1913; who the man was whom the historians forgot—these are a few of the fascinating revelations in *It Takes All Kinds.*

MUSIC

O'Connell, Charles—The Other Side of the Record *(Knopf, 1947)*—19 records—read by Walter Gerard APH

Charles O'Connell was for twenty years music director of Red Seal recordings for Victor; more recently he has occupied the parallel position with Columbia. He has now let fly with a book of impressions, stories, judgments, prejudices, and portraits. Here are the possessors of justly famed names as he saw them under stress and strain, in intimate and revealing situations. He writes with honest acid, wittily, incisively, without pity for himself or others. He wrote

the book, he says, to keep himself from bursting. Among the headline names gracing the chapters are: Grace Moore, Lily Pons, André Kostelanetz, José Iturbi, Eugene Ormandy, Lauritz Melchior, Arturo Toscanini, Artur Rubinstein, Leopold Stokowski, and many others.

WORLD WAR II

Halsey, Fleet Admiral William F., USN *and* Bryan, Lieut. Commander J., III, USNR—ADMIRAL HALSEY'S STORY *(Whittlesey House, 1947)*—24 records—read by Robert Donley AFB

"The Admiral tells the story of his forty-one years in service with the assistance of Lt. Comdr. J. Bryan, a former associate editor of *The Saturday Evening Post,* who himself had a distinguished record in World War II. Admiral Halsey calls the book a report ('the only things I know how to write'), but in this book there is nothing stiff, dull, or formal that one might expect in the report of a military man. It will make fascinating reading for every American who served under Halsey in the Pacific. To learn what went on behind the wartime newspaper reports, here is an incomparable document." —Robert A. Low, Lt. Comdr., USNR, *Saturday Review of Literature.*

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

FRENCH

France, Anatole—LE CRIME DE SYLVESTRE BONNARD: Membre de l'Institut (Calmann Lévy)—13 records—read by Robert Franc AFB

The story of a delightful old recluse and bookworm whose "crime" consists in kidnapping the daughter of his early sweetheart, rescuing her from an unhappy situation, and finally, after some complications, making her his ward.

Roy, Gabrielle—BONHEUR D'OCCASION *(Editions Beauchemin, Montreal, 1947)*—30 records—read by Robert Franc AFB

The Tin Flute in the original French *(see T. B. Topics, Sept., '48)*

TALKING BOOKS

1948

The following Talking Books, recorded for the Library of Congress, were placed in the distributing libraries during 1948. Borrowers who wish fuller descriptions of their contents are referred to the issues of Talking Book Topics in which they were originally announced. These are indicated by the letters M, J, S, D, for March, June, September, December, 1948. Note: Books listed under Special Release are not recorded for the Library of Congress but are in the distributing libraries.

FICTION

Albrand, Martha—Whispering Hill—19 r. Scourby AFB S

Balzac, Honoré de—Pere Goriot—20 r. Scourby AFB D

Barringer, Leslie—Gerfalcon—22 r. Fleurnoy APH D

Bekessy—Barabbas: A Novel of the Time of Jesus—22 r. Walton APH J

Binns, Archie—The Land is Bright—21 r. Walsh APH M

Brace, Gerald Warner—The Garretson Chronicle—24 r. Patterson APH S

Breslin, Howard—The Tamarack Tree—26 r. Lazar AFB D

Burman, Ben Lucien—Blow For A Landing—22 r. Fellows AFB S

Butler, Samuel—The Way of All Flesh—30 r. Brewster AFB S

Cather, Willa—Death Comes for the Archbishop—15 r. Scourby AFB J

Churchill, Winston—Richard Carvel—37 r. Walsh APH D

Clemens, Samuel L.—Pudd'nhead Wilson & Those Extraordinary Twins—14 r. Blackwell APH S

Collins, Norman—Dulcimer Street—53 r. Walton APH S

Dickens, Charles—Dombey and Son—68 r. French APH J

Eden, Emily—The Semi-Attached Couple—17 r. Knight AFB S

Edmonds, Walter D.—In the Hands of the Senecas—12 r. Lazar AFB S

Ertz, Susan—Mary Hallam—16 r. Hayes APH S

Feuchtwanger, Lion—Proud Destiny—57 r. Scourby AFB D

Franken, Rose—Claudia—15 r. Walton APH J

Freedman, Benedict & Nancy—Mrs. Mike—21 r. McComb AFB J

Goertz, Arthémise—Give Us Our Dream—16 r. Hayes APH J

Hilton, James—Nothing So Strange—19 r. Tyrrell AFB D

Hobson, Laura Z.—Gentleman's Agreement—17 r. Scourby AFB J

Hough, Henry Beetle—Long Anchorage—21 r. Scourby AFB J

Kane, Harnett T.—New Orleans Woman—26 r. Walsh APH S

Kester, Vaughan—The Prodigal Judge—27 r. Fellows AFB D

Lewis, Sinclair—Dodsworth—27 r. Jameson AFB D

Leslie, Frank—There's A Spot In My Heart—10 r. Meeker APH J

North, Sterling—So Dear To My Heart—11 r. Parkhirst AFB S

Parrish, Anne—The Perennial Bachelor—16 r. Tyrrell AFB D

Prouty, Olive Higgins—Home Port—18 r. Blackwell APH M

Roy, Gabrielle—The Tin Flute—25 r. Scourby AFB S

Shellabarger, Samuel—Prince of Foxes—35 r. Walsh APH J

Turnbull, Agnes Sligh—The Bishop's Mantle—28 r. Patterson APH D

Warren, Robert Penn—All the King's Men—44 r. Blackwell APH S

Wodehouse, P. G.—Full Moon—14 r. Doig AFB S

COLLECTIONS

Forster, E. M.—The Collected Tales of E. M. Forster—16 r. Brewster AFB D

Maugham, W. Somerset—Creatures of Circumstance—20 r. Meeker APH S

Tarkington, Booth—Three Selected Short Novels—21 r. Patterson APH S

van Dyke, Henry—The Blue Flower—10 r. Bransford AFB S

Weston, Christine—There and Then—8 r. Tyrrell AFB S

MYSTERY AND DETECTIVE

Collins, Mary—Death Warmed Over—11 r. Hayes APH D

Crane, Frances—Murder on the Purple Water—12 r. Parker AFB D

Cunningham, A. B.—Death of a Bullionaire—11 r. Blackwell APH S

Gardner, Erle Stanley—The Case of the Fan-Dancer's Horse—17 r. Cotsworth AFB S

Iams, Jack—The Body Missed the Boat—13 r. Patterson APH J

Lawrence, Hilda—Death of a Doll—19 r. Parker AFB S

Marsh, Ngaio—Final Curtain—19 r. Brewster AFB S

Tilton, Alice—The Iron Clew—12 r. Fleurnoy APH J

WESTERN

Grey, Zane—Shadow on the Trail—18 r. Jameson AFB M

Grey, Zane—Valley of Wild Horses—16 r. Gilbert APH J

Overholser, Wayne D.—Buckaroo's Code—12 r. Gilbert APH J

Short, Luke—Station West—11 r. McCarthy AFB S

Spearman, Frank H.—Nan of Music Mountain—19 r. Gilbert APH S

ADVENTURE AND TRAVEL

Bodley, R. V. C.—Wind in the Sahara—20 r. Author AFB D

MacDonald, Norman—The Orchid Hunters: A Jungle Adventure 14 r. Gilbert APH S

Stanwell-Fletcher, Theodora C.—Driftwood Valley—27 r. Ruthenburg APH S

BIOGRAPHY

Burns, Walter Noble—The Saga of Billy the Kid—19 r. Gilbert APH J

Denison, Merrill—Klondike Mike—24 r. Lazar AFB S

Hall, Melvin—JOURNEY TO THE END OF AN ERA—40 r. Donley AFB S

James, Marquis—ANDREW JACKSON: PORTRAIT OF A PRESIDENT—39 r. Donley AFB M

James, Will—LONE COWBOY—24 r. Gilbert APH J

Kantor, MacKinlay—BUT LOOK, THE MORN: THE STORY OF A CHILDHOOD—22 r. Patterson APH J

King-Hall, Magdalen—THE LOVELY LYNCHS—18 r. Walsh APH J

Levy, Harriet Lane—920 O'FARRELL STREET—17 r. Everett AFB J

Marshall, Katherine Tupper—TOGETHER: ANNALS OF AN ARMY WIFE—16 r. Ruthenburg APH J

Middleton, George—THESE THINGS ARE MINE: THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A JOURNEYMAN PLAYWRIGHT—34 r. Gladden APH D

Vestal, Stanley—KIT CARSON: THE HAPPY WARRIOR OF THE OLD WEST—16 r. Patterson APH M

HISTORY

Byrnes, James F.—SPEAKING FRANKLY—28 r. Murdock AFB D

Lamb, Harold—THE CRUSADES: THE FLAME OF ISLAM—30 r. Knight AFB D

Shirer, William L.—END OF A BERLIN DIARY—26 r. Gerard APH D

Trevor-Roper, H. R.—THE LAST DAYS OF HITLER—20 r. O'Neill AFB D

HUMOR

Benchley, Robert—INSIDE BENCHLEY—13 r. Murdock AFB M

LITERARY HISTORY AND CRITICISM

Gray, James—ON SECOND THOUGHT—17 r. Lauren Gilbert AFB S

MEDICINE

Dunbar, Dr. Flanders—MIND AND BODY: PSYCHOSOMATIC MEDICINE—20 r. O'Neill AFB D

MUSIC

Affelder, Paul—How to Build a Record Library—15 r. Walton APH D

NATURAL HISTORY

Ditmars, Raymond L.—Strange Animals I Have Known—14 r. French APH S

Kieran, John—Footnotes on Nature—13 r. Fleurnoy APH S

Peattie, Donald Culross—Green Laurels: The Lives and Achievements of the Great Naturalists—19 r. Gerard APH J

PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED

Carlson, Earl R.—Born That Way—9 r. Clark APH D

Fox, Monroe L.—Blind Adventure—8 r. Fleurnoy APH J

POETRY

Browning, Elizabeth Barrett—Sonnets From the Portuguese—2 r. Tyrrell AFB D

RELIGION

Lecomte du Noüy, Pierre—Human Destiny—21 r. O'Neill AFB S

Sheldon, Charles M.—In His Steps: What Would Jesus Do?—16 r. Fleurnoy APH M

Taft, Charles P.—Why I Am For the Church—7 r. Fleurnoy APH D

UNITED STATES

Eaton, Allen H.—Handicrafts of the Southern Highlands—23 r. Earl AFB S

Gunther, John—Inside U.S.A.—97 r. Donley AFB D

Havighurst, Walter—Land of Promise: The Story of the Northwest Territory—27 r. Earl AFB D

Howard, Joseph Kinsey—MONTANA: HIGH, WIDE AND HANDSOME—23 r. Clark APH S

Peattie, Roderick (*Ed.*)—THE SIERRA NEVADA—22 r. Earl AFB D

Pyle, Ernie—HOME COUNTRY—31 r. Gerard APH J

WORLD WAR II

Keith, Agnes Newton—THREE CAME HOME—21 r. Tyrrell AFB M

FOREIGN LANGUAGE—FRENCH

Balzac, Honoré de—LES CHOUANS—25 r. Franc AFB D

Fromentin, Eugène—DOMINIQUE—17 r. Franc AFB D

Lafforest, Roger de—LES FIGURANTS DE LA MORT—10 r. Franc AFB D

Montesquieu—LETTRES PERSANES—19 r. Franc AFB D

Voltaire, François Marie Arouet de—ZADIG—6 r. Franc AFB D

PERIODICALS

ELLERY QUEEN'S MYSTERY MAGAZINE—January-December, 1948 APH

READER'S DIGEST—January-December, 1948 APH

TALKING BOOK TOPICS—March, June, September, December, 1948 AFB

SPECIAL RELEASE

Knoll, Most Rev. J. F. & Fallon, Rev. L. J.—FATHER SMITH INSTRUCTS JACKSON—20 r. Hurley & Doig AFB M

THE TRUTH ABOUT ADVERSITY & I SEE!—From the Christian Science Journal and Sentinel—1 r. Browne AFB D

TALKING BOOK READERS 1948

AFB

Col. R. V. C. Bodley
Bradley Bransford
John Brewster
Harry Browne
Staats Cotsworth
Barry Doig
Robert Donley
Eugene Earl
Ethel Everett
Hugh Fellows
Robert Franc
Lauren Gilbert
Rev. John F. Hurley, S.J.
House Jameson
John Knight
William Lazar
Kevin McCarthy
Kate McComb
Kermit Murdock
Eugene O'Neill, Jr.
Kay Parker
Douglass Parkhirst
Alexander Scourby
Ann Tyrrell

APH

Burt Blackwell
Paul Clark
Morris Fleurnoy
Peter French
Walter Gerard
Livingston Gilbert
William Gladden
Terry Hayes
Kenneth Meeker
George Patterson
Dorcas Ruthenburg
George Walsh
James Walton

March '49

CHECK THE TITLES YOU WISH TO BORROW, DETACH THE LIST AND MAIL IT TO YOUR TALKING BOOK LIBRARY—**NOT TO THE FOUNDATION.**

Talking Books should be borrowed from your nearest regional distributing library. All libraries have the same collections, so do not attempt to borrow records from more than one of these libraries.

- ☐ Andrews—An Explorer Comes Home—15 r. AFB
- ☐ Bates—The Purple Plain—16 r. APH
- ☐ Bellamy—Looking Backward—17 r. APH
- ☐ The Book of Psalms—9 r. AFB
- ☐ The Proverbs—4 r. AFB
- ☐ The Gospel of St. Matthew—5 r. AFB
- ☐ The Gospel of St. Mark—3 r. AFB
- ☐ The Gospel of St. Luke—5 r. AFB
- ☐ The Gospel of St. John—4 r. AFB
- ☐ Cable—The Gobi Desert—27 r. AFB
- ☐ Crane—The Red Badge of Courage—9 r. APH
- ☐ Crawford—Zoroaster—15 r. AFB
- ☐ DuBois—The Island in the Square—23 r. AFB
- ☐ Fay—The Two Franklins—21 r. AFB
- ☐ Fine—Our Children Are Cheated—19 r. AFB
- ☐ France—Le Crime de Sylvestre Bonnard (French)—13 r. AFB
- ☐ Halsey—Admiral Halsey's Story—24 r. AFB
- ☐ Irving—The Alhambra—26 r. AFB
- ☐ James—Washington Square—13 r. AFB
- ☐ Keyes—Came A Cavalier—42 r. APH
- ☐ Leacock—My Remarkable Uncle—12 r. APH
- ☐ Leaf—Aesop's Fables—4 r. AFB
- ☐ Lewis—It Takes All Kinds—15 r. APH
- ☐ Linton—Man's Way, From Cave to Skyscraper—11 r. APH

(SEE REVERSE SIDE)

- ☐ McCracken—Frederic Remington: Artist of the Old West—8 r. APH
- ☐ McCrone—Red Plush—42 r. APH
- ☐ Mitchell—Great Fishing Stories—14 r. AFB
- ☐ O'Connell—The Other Side of the Record—19 r. APH
- ☐ Pearce—Southwesterners Write—24 r. APH
- ☐ Roy—Bonheur D'Occasion (French)—30 r. AFB
- ☐ Scott—Waverley—33 r. APH
- ☐ Spock—The Common Sense Book of Baby and Child Care—34 r. APH
- ☐ Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine—January, February, March, 1949 APH
- ☐ Reader's Digest—January, February, March, 1949 APH
- ☐ Talking Book Topics—March, 1949

Dear Librarian: I would like to borrow the titles checked on this list:

READER'S NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE POSTAL UNIT NO.

(SEE REVERSE SIDE)

Checked

TALKING BOOK TOPICS

VOL. XV, NO. 1 JUNE, 1949

Issued Quarterly By the
AMERICAN FOUNDATION *for the* BLIND, Inc.
15 WEST 16th STREET • NEW YORK 11, N. Y.

Entered as second-class matter June 11, 1936, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of August 24, 1912.

Talking Book Topics

VOL. XV, NO. 1 JUNE, 1949

The American Foundation for the Blind is a national agency the purpose of which is to promote increasingly and uncompromisingly the interests of all the blind throughout the United States, in close cooperation with all local organizations.

TALKING BOOK TOPICS is issued by the Foundation in inkprint, and in Talking Book form, four times a year—in March, June, September, and December. A printed copy is sent to all readers, free of charge, to aid you in requesting titles from your regular distributing library. There is a subscription price of $1 a year for the recorded edition.

If you can afford the yearly subscription price of $1 in order to receive the magazine in recorded form, please tear out the coupon in this issue, have it filled in, and mail it to the Talking Book Department of the American Foundation for the Blind, 15 West 16th Street, New York 11, New York, accompanied by your remittance.

Enclosed find the sum of $1.00 to cover one year's subscription for the recorded edition of TALKING BOOK TOPICS. Please send this magazine to:

SUBSCRIBER'S NAME _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

POSTAL UNIT NO. _____

STATE _____

ACCIDENT INSURANCE FOR THE BLIND

Through the efforts of Dr. Robert B. Irwin, Executive Director of the American Foundation for the Blind, it is now possible for gainfully employed blind persons to secure an accident insurance policy providing accidental death benefits, dismemberment benefits, and monthly disability benefits.

The American Casualty Company of Reading, Pennsylvania, a Stock Company operating since 1902 and with assets of over 16 million dollars, has agreed to issue their Protector policy to gainfully employed blind persons whose earnings average $75.00 or more per month. We believe this is the first time that a standard accident policy has been issued to the blind. It is the Company's top grade commercial policy, is very broad in coverage, and is approved by the various state insurance departments.

The policy will pay:

Accidental death	$ 500.00
Accidental loss of both hands	$3000.00
Accidental loss of both feet	$3000.00
Accidental loss of the entire sight of both eyes	$3000.00
Accidental loss of one hand and one foot	$3000.00
Accidental loss of one hand and the entire sight of one eye	$3000.00
Accidental loss of one foot and the entire sight of one eye	$3000.00
Accidental loss of one arm	$2100.00
Accidental loss of one leg	$2100.00
Accidental loss of one hand	$1500.00
Accidental loss of one foot	$1500.00

Accidental loss of the entire sight of one eye...	$ 800.00
Monthly benefit while totally disabled from the first day for as long as 12 months	$ 60.00
Non Disabling Injury Fee	$ 15.00

Benefits starting at age 66 reduce 5% a year up to a total reduction of 50%. There is no increase in premium because of older age, nor is the policy terminated for advanced age.

Any gainfully employed male between the ages of 18 and 64 and any gainfully employed female between the ages of 18 and 59 is eligible at the following low rates:

Male	Annually	$15.00	Female	Annually	$19.36
	Semi-Annually	$ 8.00		Semi-Annually	$10.18
	Quarterly	$ 4.25		Quarterly	$ 5.34

You may secure any additional information or an application for this fine policy from:

Mr. Jerry J. Moyer
601 Commonwealth Building
Allentown, Pennsylvania

WATCHES

The American Foundation for the Blind has in stock five different models of watches for the use of blind people, ranging in price from $9.00 to $27.00. Address your inquiry to Miss Evelyn Davidson, in care of the Foundation.

NEW TALKING BOOKS

The following Talking Books, recorded for the Library of Congress, may now be borrowed from your regular distributing library.

AFB—*American Foundation for the Blind, New York.*

APH—*American Printing House for the Blind, Louisville, Kentucky.*

FICTION

Aldrich, Bess Streeter—A Lantern in Her Hand *(Appleton, 1928)*—18 records—read by George Patterson APH

Abbie Deal, brought up in a log cabin in Iowa, took the covered wagon trail to Nebraska as a young bride. There she lived in a rude shelter on the prairie, raised her young family and companioned her husband through all the heart-breaking struggles of the pioneer days. When at last, at a ripe old age, surrounded by her children and grandchildren, she saw her early struggles bear splendid fruit, Abbie Deal found her reward. With a lantern in her hand, she had gone forth to light the way for future generations.

Chidsey, Donald Barr—Stronghold *(Doubleday, 1948)*—34 records—read by George Walsh APH

As apprenticed boys in nineteenth-century Connecticut, Habakkuk Jones and John Rellison led an adventurous life outwitting Jefferson's men, who were trying to enforce the Embargo Act. Even when both sought wider lives, something of their friendship remained and survived war and love for the same woman and, in the end, murder.

Deeping, Warwick—Sorrell and Son *(Knopf, 1926)*—25 records—read by James Walton APH

The story of the perfect comradeship between a father and son. After the First World War Captain Stephen Sorrell, M.C. finds

himself without a job and deserted by his wife. All he has is a small son and one ambition; to give the boy, Christopher, a better preparation for life than he has had. He accepts the only work he can find, which is little better than menial; but through force of character he surmounts the humiliations of his position to achieve the success, happiness, and love of his son.

Hardy, Thomas—TESS OF THE D'URBERVILLES *(Modern Library)*—31 records—read by John Brewster AFB

First published in 1891, this is an embodiment in fiction of the Tragedy of Woman. Tess, a beautiful village girl, is a lineal descendant of the ancient D'Urberville family. Her far-off gentle blood shows itself in her passionate, sensitive nature. By a mere accident she becomes the prey of a young man of gross instincts. Her child is born and dies. "Her physical blight becomes her mental harvest;" she is lifted above the groping mental state of the people about her. But this etherealization has fatal results. As she was once the victim of man's vices, she is destined to become the victim of his conventional virtues.

Hatch, Eric—MY MAN GODFREY *(Little, Brown, 1935)*—9 records—read by Burt Blackwell APH

A humorous story of high life in New York, in which Godfrey, an ex-forgotten man, is the hero and Irene Bullock, a dumb but beautiful member of the Four Hundred, the heroine.

Hawthorne, Nathaniel—THE MARBLE FAUN: The Romance of Monte Belli—27 records—read by Burt Blackwell APH

First published in 1860, this is the last complete romance of the author and was thought by him to be his best. The scene is laid in Rome. The "faun" is Count Donatello, a happy carefree being who resembles the Faun of Praxiteles. Enraged because the beautiful and mysterious art student, Miriam, is constantly annoyed by a monk named Antonio, in an impulsive moment Donatello throws Antonio over the Tarpeian rock. The secret knowledge of crime slowly changes the light-hearted Donatello into a wretched victim of conscience. Meantime another art student, Hilda, who has accidentally witnessed the murder, endures untold torments from

her New England conscience and finds it impossible until she at last seeks relief in the Catholic confessional.

Iams, Jack—PREMATURELY GAY *(Morrow, 1948)*—11 records —read by Burt Blackwell APH

It all began with a drop in the sales of *Heigh-ho Silver,* the House of Hollister's most famous preparation for the hair. That's where Whitman Blake came in, being, as he was, the junior executive of Bunbury and Blake, Public Relations. In no time he had plans afoot for spreading *Heigh-ho Silver* all over the map—plans upon which his future depended in more ways than one, for by then he had met Felicity Hollister, who was not only beautiful, but dedicated, unhappily, to spinsterhood by the fortune-hunters of the world. That's how the trouble began—and from then on Whit's fate hung by a hair.

Idell, Albert Edward—CENTENNIAL SUMMER *(Holt, 1943)*—25 records—read by Kenneth Meeker APH

A jolly story of family life in Philadelphia during 1875 and '76. The action revolves about the Rogers family—father, who worked for the Philadelphia & Reading and thought himself the dominant male; mother, who was Italian and a beauty, and could wind father around her little finger; and their four children. When mother's sister from Paris came to the Centennial, bringing a handsome nephew, the two beautiful Rogers girls went into immediate action.

Meredith, George—DIANA OF THE CROSSWAYS *(Scribner's, 1885)*—30 records—read by Livingston Gilbert APH

This novel displays Meredith's power of drawing a living vibrant woman, in whom beauty and intellect and noble character are united. Diana is an Irishwoman of good family. As a girl she makes an unfortunate marriage with a Mr. Warwick, who so little knows her true character that he suspects her of an intrigue with a Lord Dannisburg, and begins proceedings against her. Diana's separation from her husband is the beginning of her picturesque but always honorable career, and the true initial point of the story. She is one of the most charming of Meredith's women.

Rice, Alice Hegan—Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch *(1901)* —4 records—read by Miriam Robinson APH

This is the story of an optimistic woman who in spite of her many adversities is always able to look on the bright side of things. Mrs. Wiggs is a widow with a family of five children to support; her husband has died as the result of intemperance, but instead of dwelling upon Mr. Wigg's shortcomings, the widow always lays stress upon the "fine hand he wrote." The "Cabbage Patch" is not a real cabbage patch but a collection of remarkable cottages set down at random close to the railroad tracks. The scene of the story is laid in Kentucky and a true southern atmosphere pervades it. It is full of amusing incidents and Mrs. Wigg's humorous and philosophical remarks are a great source of entertainment.

Richter, Conrad—The Fields *(Knopf, 1946)*—12 records—read by James Walton APH

Richter's earlier novel, *The Trees* (APH, 1941), was the story of an American family in the wilderness—a family that "followed the woods as some families follow the sea." The time was the end of the eighteenth century, the wilderness was the land west of the Alleghenies and north of the Ohio River. But principally it was the story of the young girl Sayward, whose people had always been hunters but who now at last were beginning to face the realization that the time had come to till the soil. In this new novel Mr. Richter has told the story of that period of tilling—the story of Sayward as a wife and mother, working with her own brood on that hard frontier to create a durable home and the aspects of civilization in a region where life was still difficult and where towns were just beginning to appear.

Rinehart, Mary Roberts—A Light in the Window *(Rinehart, 1948)*—24 records—read by James Walton APH

This is the story of the share the Wayne family had in the dramas, disasters, idiocies and triumphs of the last thirty years: of conservative Matthew Wayne, founder of the book publishing house that bears his name; of ambitious Elizabeth, his wife; and of Courtney, their son, just returning from France to take up life again with the wife he hardly knows. The Waynes are no average

family, yet their story, as it embraces that groping thirty years, is the story of an America bewildered by its new world-stature and yielding grudgingly to new liberal ideas.

*White, Nelia Gardner—No Trumpet Before Him *(Westminster Press, 1948)*—25 records—read by Lauren Gilbert AFB

This is a novel about a misfit minister. Perhaps it was just a strange whim of the bishop's to appoint a young failure, Paul Phillips, as moral shepherd of the sophisticated, wealthy congregation of Warrenton's First Church. But perhaps it was more than a whim. Former pastors had catered to the willful parishioners. Paul was just not that kind of man. What happened in Warrenton could happen in any community confronted by a spiritual leader who is both holy and human.

COLLECTIONS

Felton, Harold W., *Ed.*—Legends of Paul Bunyan *(Knopf, 1947)*—20 records—read by Robert Donley AFB

"The editor of this anthology has gathered together representative samples, in both prose and verse, of the most generally accepted versions of Paul's fabulous exploits and has arranged them in something like logical and episodic sequence. Here will be found such tall stories as that of Paul's five-stork birth, and of the year of the hot winter, when the great logger toiled so savagely that his perspiration formed a salt water lake. There is also the tale of the winter of the blue snow during which Paul found the Blue Ox, Babe, whose rapid swimming produced warm currents of water, whose tremendous thirst drained rivers, and who could, with great labor, perform the obviously useful work of straightening out crooked roads."—*U.S. Quarterly Book List.*

MYSTERY AND DETECTIVE

Hughes, Dorothy B.—In a Lonely Place *(Duell, Sloan & Pearce, 1947)*—15 records—read by Kevin McCarthy AFB

He had Mel's apartment and Mel's car and the use of Mel's charge

* *Ten inch records*

accounts; those made life comfortable. Once a month he had excitement, gratification, and peace—enough to last him for a time while the newspapers headlined another murder. What folly, born of loneliness, drove him to look up Brub—for Brub was a cop now, hunting the strangler? Perhaps it would have been all right, even so, if he had not found Laurel—because of whom he ventured forth from that lonely place apart from his fellow men and so came to disaster.

ADVENTURE AND TRAVEL

Yates, Haydie—70 Miles from a Lemon *(Houghton Mifflin, 1946)*—14 records—read by Terry Hayes APH

The Yates were coming back after a footloose summer in Europe. Came the dawn and the cold gray stalagmites of lower New York. "To hell with all this," said the Yates in unison—and set off that night in a flivver for Wyoming. They set themselves down in the heart of Crow Indian Reservation in the Big Horn Mountains. There was no house, so they built a log cabin themselves, beating the first big blizzard by inches. No cows and no meadows, so they began buying and ploughing. No neighbors, no calendar or radio, so they had to guess when it was Christmas. And all this 70 miles from a lemon! Mrs. Yates' narrative is a Swiss Family Robinson tale of the quest for shelter and subsistence.

AGRICULTURE

Bromfield, Louis—Malabar Farm *(Harper, 1948)*—33 records—read by Paul Clark APH

Year by year Malabar farm has grown steadily richer and lovelier, since Bromfield first told the world in *Pleasant Valley* (AFB, 1945) how a tract of land in his native Ohio was reclaimed and made to bloom. In this book he carries forward the narration of his life there. One third consists of extracts from the author's personal diaries of a year's cycle at Malabar. There are also chapters which expand and carry out his long established beliefs on the right and wrong way of farming, the farm as a wholesome way of life for city dwellers, and the perils of famine which threaten great areas of the world and may even touch America.

BIOGRAPHY

Eaton, Jeannette—David Livingstone: Foe of Darkness *(Morrow, 1947)*—11 records—read by James Walton APH

The story of this man—medical missionary, explorer, scientist and, above all, friend of mankind—reads like the wildest adventure story. That he survived the hardships and hazards of his chosen career in Africa for thirty years seems almost incredible. His steadfast faith and courage and loving-kindness in the face of disappointment and suffering are inspiring. This is a moving and sensitively written account of the life of a great man.

Edman, Irwin—Philosopher's Holiday *(Viking, 1938)*—15 records—read by Kenneth Meeker APH

To write this warm and friendly memoir, Irwin Edman has indulged in the pleasant pastime of recalling those encounters which at one time or another have contributed to his understanding and enjoyment of life. "The professor of philosophy studies philosophy, the philosopher studies life," he quotes, and his book is about the people, world-famous and obscure, whom he has known and whose lives have revealed to him new and arresting aspects of the human spirit.

Wright, Richard—Black Boy *(Harper, 1945)*—17 records—read by Canada Lee AFB

"The subject of this autobiography is a well known Negro writer, who has here set down the record of his first nineteen years. This powerfully written, violent story of cruelty and frustration takes shape within the pattern of contemporary (1909-28) race relations in southern small towns of Mississippi and Tennessee, and illumines the subject with an angry intelligence. More profoundly, it is the particular history of the effect of this pattern on a highly sensitive, original personality conditioned from infancy by extreme poverty and brutality. While it is social history it is particularly the 'portrait of the artist as a young man.' "—*U.S. Quarterly Book List.*

HISTORY

Miers, Earl Schenck *and* Brown, Richard A., *Eds.*—GETTYSBURG *(Rutgers University Press)*—14 records—read by Livingston Gilbert APH

This is history told by the men and women who made it. It is a composite account of the invasion and the three dramatic days of battle written in the words of men in both armies, of men and women, and even a child, whose lives were ground into the substance of battle. It is told through diaries, letters, reports, and recollections. A council of war held in a farmhouse; Confederate generals whittling while they make decisions; a civilian gathering beans so that the Rebels will not steal them; a boy on a fence rail watching the battle; a horse running away with a general; men fainting from heat as they climb Little Round Top; an exhausted boy soldier finding refuge in a farmhouse; such fractional parts of the battle are brought together to form a mosaic.

LANGUAGE

Lloyd, Charles Allen—WE WHO SPEAK ENGLISH: And Our Ignorance of Our Mother Tongue *(Crowell, 1938)*—19 records—read by Walter Gerard APH

Informally written chapters on American use of the English language including discussion of some correct usages widely thought incorrect, as well as discussions of real errors, origins of phrases, dialects, etc. The author, by the clarity of his own thought, the excellence of his own writing and his contagious enthusiasm for good language, furnishes a stimulus, as well as a guide to correct speaking and writing.

PHILOSOPHY

Dimnet, Ernest—THE ART OF THINKING *(Simon & Schuster, 1928)*—12 records—read by William Gladden APH

Professor John Dewey said of this book: "Some books lend themselves to reviewing; they seem made for that purpose even more than to read. Abbé Dimnet's little book is not one of these. He gives

ferments rather than recipes; he has practiced the art of thinking until its product is itself a work of art. Before a work of art one is likely to be dumb or to indulge only in ejaculations; and when asked why one likes it, to reply 'Go and see for yourself.' That is the way I feel about this genial and witty book. It is compact with the wisdom gathered in years of observation of himself and of others."

RELIGION

Goodspeed, Edgar J.—How to Read the Bible *(Winston, 1946)*—17 records—read by Robert Donley AFB

Scholar, man of letters, student and teacher, Dr. Goodspeed has devoted his life to the study and explanation of the Bible. He has traveled far afield in his pursuit of knowledge. He has had to learn Greek, Latin, Hebrew, Assyrian, and other Semitic tongues. His collections of Greek papyri and New Testament manuscripts are world famous. He is particularly proud of his collection of sixteenth-century English Bibles. One of the best known modern translations of the Bible is that by Dr. Goodspeed and his colleague J. M. P. Smith. In *How to Read the Bible* Dr. Goodspeed translates his lifetime of study and research into an illuminating book written in the language of every man and woman.

SPORTS

Griffith, Corinne—My Life with the Redskins *(A. S. Barnes, 1948)*—14 records—read by Terry Hayes APH

The "Redskins" are the professional football team, once of Boston, now of Washington, and owned by the author's husband, George Preston Marshall.

*Marsh, Irving T. *and* Ehre, Edward, *Eds.*—Best Sports Stories—1947 *(Dutton, 1947)*—20 records—read by William Lazar AFB

This panorama of the 1946 sports year is the third annual collection of topnotch sports stories, culled from the nation's press. It provides

* *Ten inch records*

dramatic reading for every fan with its forty-one stories and complete statistical and news summary of the sports year, including headlines in sports day by day and a listing of the year's champions in all fields.

Ruth, George Herman—THE BABE RUTH STORY—as told to Bob Considine *(Dutton, 1948)*—15 records—read by William Gladden APH

"Bob Considine, who wrote the book in the first person, has done much more than describe Ruth's vagaries and exploits. He has captured the team personality of the Yankees of the Twenties and Thirties, and he has lively stories to tell."—Rex Lardner.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

FRENCH

Bourget, Paul—LE DISCIPLE—19 records—read by Robert Franc AFB

First published in 1889, this book marked a change in the author's point of view from detached psychologist to convinced moralist. It has been said to mark an important date in the intellectual and moral history of France.

Proust, Marcel—DU CÔTÉ DE CHEZ SWANN *(Gallimard, 1919)* —37 records—read by Robert Franc AFB

This is the first and best known volume of Proust's great novel *A la Recherche du Temps Perdu (Remembrance of Things Past)*. It introduces the author's theories of time and memory and gives an appealing picture of the childhood of the narrator in the village of Combray. The title refers to one of the two paths by which the narrator and his parents could reach their home after having been out for a stroll—the path leading past the house of Charles Swann.

CHECK THE TITLES YOU WISH TO BORROW, DETACH THE LIST AND MAIL IT TO YOUR TALKING BOOK LIBRARY—**NOT TO THE FOUNDATION.**

Talking Books should be borrowed from your nearest regional distributing library. All libraries have the same collections, so do not attempt to borrow records from more than one of these libraries.

- ☐ Aldrich—A Lantern in Her Hand—18 r. APH
- ☐ Bourget—Le Disciple (French)—19 r. AFB
- ☐ Bromfield—Malabar Farm—33 r. APH
- ☐ Chidsey—Stronghold—34 r. APH
- ☐ Deeping—Sorrell and Son—25 r. APH
- ☐ Dimnet—The Art of Thinking—12 r. APH
- ☐ Eaton—David Livingstone: Foe of Darkness—11 r. APH
- ☐ Edman—Philosopher's Holiday—15 r. APH
- ☐ Felton—Legends of Paul Bunyan—20 r. AFB
- ☐ Goodspeed—How to Read the Bible—17 r. AFB
- ☐ Griffith—My Life with the Redskins—14 r. APH
- ☐ Hardy—Tess of the D'Urbervilles—31 r. AFB
- ☐ Hatch—My Man Godfrey—9 r. APH
- ☐ Hawthorne—The Marble Faun—27 r. APH
- ☐ Hughes—In a Lonely Place—15 r. AFB
- ☐ Iams—Prematurely Gay—11 r. APH
- ☐ Idell—Centennial Summer—25 r. APH
- ☐ Lloyd—We Who Speak English—19 r. APH
- ☐ Marsh—Best Sports Stories—1947—20 r. AFB
- ☐ Meredith—Diana of the Crossways—30 r. APH
- ☐ Miers—Gettysburg—14 r. APH

(SEE REVERSE SIDE)

- ☐ Proust—Du Côté de Chez Swann (French)—37 r. AFB
- ☐ Rice—Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch—4 r. APH
- ☐ Richter—The Fields—12 r. APH
- ☐ Rinehart—A Light in the Window—24 r. APH
- ☐ Ruth—The Babe Ruth Story—15 r. APH
- ☐ White—No Trumpet Before Him—25 r. AFB
- ☐ Wright—Black Boy—17 r. AFB
- ☐ Yates—70 Miles from a Lemon—14 r. APH
- ☐ Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine—April, May, June, 1949 APH
- ☐ Reader's Digest—April, May, June, 1949 APH
- ☐ Talking Book Topics—March, June, 1949 AFB

Dear Libraran: I would like to borrow the titles checked on this list:

READER'S NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE POSTAL UNIT NO.

(SEE REVERSE SIDE)

Galdthwaite

Checked

TALKING BOOK TOPICS

VOL. XV, NO. 2 SEPTEMBER, 1949

Issued Quarterly By the

AMERICAN FOUNDATION *for the* BLIND, INC.

15 WEST 16TH STREET • NEW YORK 11, N. Y.

Entered as second-class matter June 11, 1936, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of August 24, 1912.

Talking Book Topics

VOL. XV, NO. 2 SEPTEMBER, 1949

The American Foundation for the Blind is a national agency the purpose of which is to promote increasingly and uncompromisingly the interests of all the blind throughout the United States, in close cooperation with all local organizations.

TALKING BOOK TOPICS is issued by the Foundation in inkprint, and in Talking Book form, four times a year—in March, June, September, and December. A printed copy is sent to all readers, free of charge, to aid you in requesting titles from your regular distributing library. There is a subscription price of $1 a year for the recorded edition.

If you can afford the yearly subscription price of $1 in order to receive the magazine in recorded form, please tear out the coupon in this issue, have it filled in, and mail it to the Talking Book Department of the American Foundation for the Blind, 15 West 16th Street, New York 11, New York, accompanied by your remittance.

Enclosed find the sum of $1.00 to cover one year's subscription for the recorded edition of TALKING BOOK TOPICS. Please send this magazine to:

SUBSCRIBER'S NAME _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

POSTAL UNIT NO. _____

STATE _____

DR. IRWIN RETIRES

On September 15, Dr. Robert B. Irwin, after twenty-six years of service with the American Foundation for the Blind, will retire as its Executive Director. His place will be taken by M. Robert Barnett, formerly Executive Director of the Florida Counsel for the Blind.

Space does not permit us to recount Dr. Irwin's many accomplishments on behalf of the blind people of the United States and, latterly, of other countries overseas. We must leave it grander publications to do justice to his career as a whole. *Talking Book Topics,* however, cannot go to press without paying tribute to what is, perhaps, his most outstanding achievement—the development of the Talking Book. This great project is due to the inspiration of Robert Irwin and was brought to fruition mainly through his efforts. Only you who read this know its full significance.

For this reason, we are sure that the 30,000 Talking Book users in the United States of America, as well as the many blind people who enjoy American Talking Books in Canada, in Great Britain, in New Zealand, in Australia, and in France join us in saluting Dr. Irwin as he turns over the helm of this organization to younger hands and in wishing him many more years of health and of that vision which has for so long been at the service of his fellow blind.

We know, too, that we speak for our subscribers when we extend to Mr. Barnett a hearty welcome and an assurance of cooperation from the devoted Talking Book audience.

Sept 49

NEW TALKING BOOKS

The following Talking Books, recorded for the Library of Congress, may now be borrowed from your regular distributing library.

AFB—*American Foundation for the Blind, New York.*

APH—*American Printing House for the Blind, Louisville, Kentucky.*

FICTION

Auslander, Joseph *and* Wurdemann, Audrey—My Uncle Jan *(Longmans, Green, 1948)*—14 records—read by Burt Blackwell APH

When Jan Horak came to Wisconsin from Czechoslovakia just before the turn of the century, he wrote home that all one needed to bring down fifteen or twenty fine fat pigeons for dinner was to point the shotgun at the sky and fire. It was only natural that such descriptions should persuade Great-aunt Horak, fat Aunt Vlasta and a host of friends and relatives to pack up their feather beds and their iron kettles and follow him to this wonderful land of America. It was natural, too, that Jan, being the first, should become the biggest and most important man in New Bohemia, Wisconsin. The story of Uncle Jan and his people is another chapter in the constant rejuvenation of the American spirit by the lusty life of her new peoples.

Austen, Jane—Emma—With an Introduction by Carl Van Doren *(Macmillan, The Modern Readers' Series)*—35 records—read by Carmen Mathews AFB

The story of *Emma* is perhaps one of the simplest in all fiction, but the genius of its author manifests itself throughout. All her books show keen insight into human nature; but in *Emma* the characters are so true to life, and the descriptions so vivid, that for the time one positively lives in the village of Highbury, the scene of the tale. Less brilliant than *Pride and Prejudice,* it is equally rich in humor, in the vivid portraiture of character, and a never-ending delight in human absurdities, which the fascinated reader shares from chapter to chapter. It was published in 1816, when Jane Austen was forty-one.

Barnes, Margaret Campbell—Within The Hollow Crown

(Macrae-Smith, 1947)—24 records—read by John Brewster AFB

Richard II has come down through history as one of the most controversial of English kings. Here is a new picture of Richard and his time—a charming, witty, civilized man, who struggled to lift his beloved England from the morass of war, from the reactionary tyranny of the powerful Dukes, his uncles, and to give the overtaxed and starving peasants a chance to be free men. The love story of Richard and Queen Anne is told with tenderness and passion. Here sound the first faint trumpets of freedom for the common man, as England, under the rule of this gallant king, moves forward to future greatness.

Bassett, Sara Ware—WITHIN THE HARBOR *(Doubleday, 1948)* —11 records—read by Livingston Gilbert APH

Floyd Robertson, former professor, enjoyed boarding with the warm and friendly Eldridge family. Life was calm and ordered. Then suddenly Floyd found himself involved in Belleport's two mysteries—who, really, was his fellow boarder, Myron Fletcher? And who was responsible for the missing copy of Shelley's *Defense of Queen Charlotte* from the town library? When Robertson took over the librarian's job, temporarily replacing the attractive Libbie Lane, he found the answers to both questions. Into this good-humored and captivating story Miss Bassett has woven all the charm of a New England village and the engaging personalities of its people.

Bromfield, Louis—THE GREEN BAY TREE *(Stokes, 1924)*—22 records—read by John Knight AFB

"When Louis Bromfield made his debut as a novelist, he seemed destined to become one of the able craftsmen of the second order of excellence who make up the great company of respectable writers in any tradition. His themes were sober, his attitude toward society critical and discerning. In the group of four related books—*The Green Bay Tree, Possession, Early Autumn,* and *A Good Woman*—he offered a study of a parochial, midwestern community the several aspects of which were highlighted by an unfailing sense of drama and a certain shrewdness of intuition. The first of these novels was the most original and the last the least so. *The Green Bay Tree* dealt with the impact upon a censorious and essentially jealous world of a woman with the glitter of worldliness upon her

brow and the subtle, pervasive hint of decadence in her individuality."—James Gray, *On Second Thought (AFB, 1948).*

Cather, Willa—My Antonia *(Houghton Mifflin, 1926)*—17 records—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

The beautiful, simply told story of a Bohemian immigrant girl, related reminiscently by a New York lawyer who had been her childhood playmate, this book gives a picture of the pioneer period in Nebraska and leaves the reader with a feeling of the goodness of the earth and of a life lived close to it. "No romantic novel ever written in America, by man or woman," said H. L. Mencken, "is one half so beautiful as *My Antonia.*"

Haggard, H. Rider—Allan Quatermain *(1888)*—21 records—read by John Brewster AFB

This recounts the adventures of the old hunter and traveller who tells the story, and whose name gives the title to the book. He is accompanied from England on an African expedition by Sir Henry Curtis—huge, fair, and brave—and Captain Good, a retired seaman. They take with them Umslopogaas, a trusty and gigantic Zulu, who has served before under Quatermain. At a mission station the party leads an expedition to rescue the daughter of the missionary, Flossie Mackenzie, who had been captured by hostile blacks. The interest of the book is found in the swift movement of the narrative, and the excitement of incessant adventure.

Idell, Albert E.—The Great Blizzard *(Holt, 1948)*—20 records—read by Kenneth Meeker APH

The setting of this novel is Brooklyn and New York City from 1884 to the "Blizzard of '88," when New Yorkers dug themselves out from snow not quite so deep but more destructive than the "Great Snow of Christmas '47." It is a novel of family life, a continuation of the fortunes of the Rogers clan, already familiar to readers of *Centennial Summer (Topics, June, '49).* And it brings a special freshness and nostalgia to a time when the Brooklyn Bridge was new, when women took pride in their husbands' whiskers, and when twenty-five cents was highway robbery for a country ham sandwich.

Mason, F. van Wyck—Eagle In The Sky *(Lippincott, 1948)*—45 records—read by Wesley Addy AFB

During the years 1780-1781, this nation became bankrupt and was

all but exhausted by internal dissensions of long standing and by the desperate battles of a long war in its final stages. Only an outnumbered naval squadron sent by His Most Christian Majesty Louis XVI and the presence in Rhode Island of a little army of French regulars lent forlorn hope to the American patriots. With these turbulent years as background tapestry—climaxed by the surrender at Yorktown of Lord Cornwallis—the author traces his story of three young doctors, their careers, their love-making, and their rough and tumble adventures in the service of a young and struggling country.

Niggli, Josephina—STEP DOWN, ELDER BROTHER *(Rinehart, 1947)*—29 records—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

The author has, in her first novel, set before the English-speaking world the story of change, change sweeping over a land, and change stirring in a people. Set in Monterrey, Mexico, the story seems at first as applicable to Chicago or Paris as to the land still associated with the dozing peon. But it explores the true character and inevitable course of a land that hitherto has been merely a lush background for the "historical" novel. Here is the stepping down of the romantic creole to make way for the practical man who has grown from the Mexican earth.

Noble, Hollister—WOMAN WITH A SWORD *(Doubleday, 1948)* —34 records—read by George Patterson APH

Basing his novel on the life of Anna Ella Carroll of Carrollton, Maryland, the author has written the story of the woman who helped to save the Union from annihilation in the early days of the Civil War. Washington on the eve of the war was tense as Union supporters waited anxiously for assurance that Maryland would stay in the Union. At the crucial hour Anne Carroll, confident of her influence with Governor Hicks of Maryland, promised Lincoln that Maryland would not secede. With Judge Evans, a Union agent, she threw herself into a series of investigations for the Union cause and eventually developed the Tennessee Plan—a brilliant piece of strategy which eventually cut the South in two. The book is not only the story of a courageous woman; it is also a new and surprisingly fresh look at the Civil War years.

Ollivant, Alfred—BOB, SON OF BATTLE *(Doubleday, Page, 1898)*—17 records—read by Robert Donley AFB

Many a long year had passed since the famous Shepherd's Trophy

had been won by one of the renowned Gray Dogs of Kenmuir. And now here was the puppy, Bob, Son of Battle, beginning to show signs of promise in the effortless way he seemed to gain the sheep's confidence and handle them like an old master. Hopes began to rise and the village inn re-echoed with the talk of his chances in the coming trials. But then there was Adam M'Adam's Red Wull, a formidable rival if there ever was one, and heartily disliked by everyone for his fierce bullying ways. The story of how "Owd Bob" fought for the great cup with Red Wull—how he pursued the Black Terror that stole through the night killing sheep ruthlessly, and proved himself to be the best and finest of all the Gray Dogs of Kenmuir—makes one of the most powerful tales in all the annals of dog stories.

Parrish, Anne—A Clouded Star *(Harper, 1948)*—14 records —read by Hugh Fellows AFB

Her name was Harriet Tubman, but her people called her Moses because time after time she led to freedom those who followed her. This is the story of one journey, with nine slaves who were led by their Moses to freedom. It is a story of human fortitude and spiritual strength, the story of a woman, ignorant and wise, who triumphed as soldier, nurse, and guide.

Proust, Marcel—Swann's Way—Translated by C. K. Scott Moncrieff *(Modern Library, 1928)*—37 records—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

The classic English translation of *Du Côté de Chez Swann,* described in the last issue of *Topics.* Note to students of French: *The Talking Book page numbers of this and of the French edition, with only one exception, coincide. The two editions may therefore be used for comparative study purposes, record by record. A word of warning is needed, however. Proust's style is extremely complex, subtle, and difficult, and his book is not recommended to any but advanced students of French.*

Walker, Mannix—Count On Two Days *(Dodd, Mead, 1943)* —16 records—read by Kate McComb AFB

The hilarious happenings of two days that would have upset any household. The Beacon Hill home of Mrs. Dowell, whose chief relaxation was reading Sophocles in the original, was thrown into such complete chaos that a detective was summoned to straighten

out the tangles. "There isn't an ounce of sense in the entire 276 pages," said one reviewer, "no social significance, no moral, nothing of the sort. But there is a laugh a minute and a satisfying sense of good fun at the end."

Weyman, Stanley J.—A Gentleman of France (*1893*)—30 records—read by William Gladden APH

This story is a romance of the troublous times in France immediately preceding the accession to the throne of Henry IV. Weyman has a reputation for spinning yarns of the most amazing and crowded adventures, with "hairbreadth escapes, decayed noblemen, bustling innkeepers, roistering troopers, and real historical characters for verisimilitude." And although one critic has complained that his books are sometimes marred by "sentimentality and purple patchery," Robert Louis Stevenson wrote of *A Gentleman of France* that it "is the most exquisite pleasure, a real chivalrous yarn like the Dumas' and yet unlike."

Wickenden, Dan—Tobias Brandywine *(Morrow, 1948)*—26 records—read by Burt Blackwell APH

Senator Windrow's family found Tobias Brandywine out on the back stoop, sick, half-starved and freezing. They wondered if he was contagious or had insects. (Gladys, aged 13, even suspected he was a werewolf.) They decided his name was an inspiration and an alias. But they put the little man to bed in the sacred room President Cleveland had slept in. And he was the beginning of a new era for all of them.

Wilder, Thornton—The Ides of March *(Harper, 1948)*—16 records—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

The author has called this book "a fantasia on certain events and persons of the last days of the Roman Republic." By stepping back into the Rome of Julius Caesar, he has brought to life a dramatic period and one of the magnificent personalities of all time. Say the editors of the Book-of-the-Month Club: "His conception of Caesar ranks with that of Shakespeare and Shaw, and he knows more about ancient Rome than either. He makes Julius Caesar wholly understandable as a human being . . . as a lover, as a husband, as a son, as a friend . . . and as a ruthless dictator."

COLLECTIONS

Davis, Richard Harding—Gallegher and Other Stories

(Scribner's, 1892)—10 records—read by Burt Blackwell APH

The other stories include: *A Walk Up the Avenue; My Disreputable Friend, Mr. Raegen; The Other Woman; There Were Ninety and Nine; The Cynical Miss Catherwaight; Van Bibber and the Swan Boat; Van Bibber's Burglar* and *Van Bibber as Best Man.* The most noteworthy of the collection are *Gallegher,* the story of the little newspaper boy who brings to the office late at night "copy" relating to a famous burglary, after many thrilling adventures; *The Other Woman,* which presents an unusual ethical problem to an engaged couple; and the trio of Van Bibber sketches.

Maule, Harry E., *Ed.*—Great Tales of the American West *(Modern Library, 1945)*—28 records AFB

In these exciting stories the reader will find outstanding contributions by the authors who broke the ground for innumerable other writers. The collection is designed to follow the development of the Western short story, and it captures the adventurous spirit of the cowboy, the two-gun man, the desert prospector, the gambler, the dance-hall girl, the cattle rustler, the miner, the builder and the nester—all pioneers of the American West. The contents are:

Introduction by the Editor—read by Eugene Earl
Harte, Bret—The Outcasts of Poker Flat—read by Wesley Addy
Mark Twain—Buck Fanshaw's Funeral—read by Robert Donley
Wister, Owen—The Winning of the Biscuit Shooter—read by Hugh Fellows
O. Henry—Hearts and Crosses—read by John Unterecker [Lazar
White, Stewart Edward—A Corner in Horses—read by William
Rhodes, Eugene Manlove—Beyond the Desert—read by Lauren Gilbert
Grey, Zane—Tappan's Burro—read by House Jameson . [hirst
Raine, William MacLeod—Last Warning—read by Douglass Park-
Mulford, Clarence E.—Hopalong Sits In—read by Victor Thorley
Tuttle, W. C.—Sunset—read by Franklin Pulaski
Hendryx, James B.—Routine Patrol—read by Howard Wierum
Knibbs, Henry Herbert—A Shot in the Dark—read by Bob Warren
Russell, Charles M.—Dog Eater—read by Larry Gates
Short, Luke—Court Day—read by Steele Kennedy
Haycox, Ernest—Stage to Lordsburg—read by Bucky Kozlow
Brand, Max—Wine on the Desert—read by Clifford W. Osborne
Clark, Walter Van Tilburg—The Indian Well—read by Anthony Ross

Easton, Robert—To Find A Place—read by Kevin McCarthy

MYSTERY AND DETECTIVE

Morley, Christopher—The Haunted Bookshop *(Lippincott, 1919)*—12 records—read by Kermit Murdock AFB

Genial Roger Mifflin, once more at the service of book lovers, called his store The Haunted Bookshop. He meant that the great spirits of literature congregated there and one could get into communication with them by browsing among the shelves. Titania, young and charming, becomes a saleswoman in the shop and immediately a new crop of bookworms appears. One of them is Aubrey Gilbert, who stops in one day just to look and discovers that a live girl in the flesh can haunt better than any spirit out of it. There are some real ghosts, however, and some real mysteries, such as the periodically disappearing Oliver Cromwell and others much too good to give away.

ADVENTURE AND TRAVEL

Roberts, W. Adolphe—Lands of the Inner Sea: The West Indies and Bermuda *(Coward-McCann, 1948—Invitation to Travel Series)*—25 records—read by William Lazar AFB

Beyond the shores of the North American continent the West Indies have always been the most accessible ports of romance for the American traveler. The Tropic of Cancer runs between Key West and Cuba, and the moment you cross that magic line you find yourself in a world where every value is different and every impression new. The author has made sixteen trips about the archipelago, culminating in the one for the purpose of this book, which took him to every important unit. He includes the three Guianas—British, Dutch and French—which although on the South American continent are identified, historically and economically, with the other European colonies. There is also a chapter on Bermuda in the Atlantic Ocean, the foreign resort *par excellence* among American vacationists.

BIOGRAPHY

Bakeless, John—Lewis and Clark: Partners in Discovery *(Morrow, 1947)*—30 records—read by Eugene Earl AFB

"The Lewis and Clark expedition was not only one of the most

romantic exploits in the history of discovery (to say nothing of its surpassing importance); it was also probably the most abundantly documented of all great explorations. Nearly every member of the party kept a record of some sort. John Bakeless, therefore, had a wealth of first-hand material at his disposal when he set about retelling the fascinating story. He has done an admirable job. His own service in two wars has stood him in good stead. He brings out, vividly and convincingly, the essential fact that the Lewis and Clark expedition was basically a military enterprise, and that the principal factors in its success were the integrity and understanding of its leaders and the loyalty and intelligence of its led." —John T. Winterich, *Book-of-the-Month Club News.*

Chamberlain, Henriqueta—WHERE THE SABIÁ SINGS *(Macmillan, 1947)*—16 records—read by the Author and Ann Tyrrell AFB

Until her first day in school, little Henriqueta had always thought she was like all other Brazilian girls. But that day for the first time she saw herself in a mirror—a red-haired, freckle-faced girl very much alone in a line of black-haired little senhoritas. She prayed to God (for her parents were Baptist missionaries) to make her like the rest. This book is the story of her life in the Brazil she loved so intensely. In Bahía, in Rio, in Sao Paulo, she loved the gaiety, the passion flowers and orange blossoms, her Brazilian schoolmates and other friends. From them she learned a great deal about religion, poverty, education, social morality, and relations between men and women in Brazil. She tells about these things in human rather than sociological terms, not as analysis but as narrative.

Charnley, Mitchell V.—JEAN LAFITTE: Gentleman Smuggler *(Viking, 1934)*—10 records—read by Milton Metz APH

"An interesting biography of the famous privateersman of the Gulf, which gives an excellent picture of New Orleans in the troublous days of the early 1800's. In his research the author consulted contemporary newspapers and magazines, diaries, letters, and documents, and conversed with many whose families had had contact with Lafitte."—*A.L.A. Booklist.*

LITERARY HISTORY AND CRITICISM

Eastman, Max—ENJOYMENT OF POETRY: With Other Essays

in Aesthetics *(Scribner's, 1939)*—21 records—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

Written with zest, this book communicates to the reader the thrill of discovering the best and the most enjoyable in poetic literature. Its dicta—on the relation of the truly poetic in everyday existence to the poetic in literature, on choice and comparison in poetry, on the creation of rhythmical English, on the practical value of poetry —remain as fresh today as they were twenty years ago. Its urbane and sensible pages, now completely revised and with additional material, remain a unique guide to the art of enjoying poetry.

NATURAL HISTORY

Darwin, Charles—THE ORIGIN OF SPECIES BY MEANS OF NATURAL SELECTION: Or The Preservation of Favored Races in the Struggle for Life *(Modern Library)*—49 records—read by Eugene O'Neill, Jr. AFB

This was first published in 1859. Though without exception the most influential book of the nineteenth century it is indebted to Lamarck and Lyall for the conception of the evolution of species, and its special hypotheses of natural selection and survival of the fittest were formulated simultaneously by Alfred Russell Wallace. But the patience and thoroughness with which they were worked out by Darwin, the mass and skillful arrangement of his evidence, the clearness and persuasiveness of his argument, and the quiet beauty and power of his style gave the theory general currency and made the book a clasic.

PHILOSOPHY

Durant, Will—THE STORY OF PHILOSOPHY *(Simon & Schuster, 1933)*—43 records—read by Sidney Walton AFB

Since its first publication in 1926 *The Story of Philosophy* has sold over a million copies in America and has been translated into eight foreign languages. For Dr. Durant performed a vital and unique social service in breathing life into the serious and important pronouncements of the world's greatest thinkers. Said John Dewey: "Thoroughly scholarly, thoroughly useful, human and readable, Dr. Durant has humanized rather than merely popularized the story of philosophy. Teachers and students in universities as well as the general reader have much to gain from it."

PSYCHOLOGY

Carnegie, Dale—How To Stop Worrying and Start Living *(Simon & Schuster, 1948)*—22 records—read by Morris Fleurnoy APH

"Frank advice about the causes of worry, which will undoubtedly shame some readers into breaking themselves of this bad habit. Quotes hundreds of suggestions from people of different ages and in various professions who have successfully overcome the bogy, but is presented in a style that will irritate some."—*A.L.A. Booklist.*

UNITED STATES

Kane, Hartnett T.—Natchez on the Mississippi *(Morrow, 1947)*—25 records—read by William Gladden APH

Perched on a bluff overlooking the Father of Waters, Natchez dreams of a fabulous and turbulent past. Capital of a lush cotton empire, it dominated men and manners for many miles. Its gentry built pillared mansions, practiced the high style and invited the world to come and look. Below huddled Natchez-under-the-Hill, wildest sin spot in the New World. Here, too, began the Natchez Trace, where a man prayed for protection against the bloody-handed bandits who were among the nation's first gangsters. The author provides a rich portrait of a people and a scene a hundred years ago when everybody, it seemed, wanted to get to Natchez, either to make a fortune or to have a good time.

Peattie, Donald Culross, *Ed.*—Audubon's America: The Narratives and Experiences of John James Audubon *(Houghton Mifflin, 1940)*—26 records—read by John Knight AFB

"Fame as an ornithologist," says Mr. Peattie, "has obscured Audubon's value as a witness to our heroic age. His painter's art has overshadowed his abilities as a writer. For besides being a detailed diarist and an inveterate correspondent, Audubon was a professional writer. And yet there has never before been collected into any one volume a general selection of the first-hand narratives of this shrewd and eager observer of all conditions and aspects of American men, manners, and scenes. This volume is intended to make up in some measure for neglect of Audubon's precious testimony."

CHECK THE TITLES YOU WISH TO BORROW, DETACH THE LIST AND MAIL IT TO YOUR TALKING BOOK LIBRARY—**NOT TO THE FOUNDATION.**

Talking Books should be borrowed from your nearest regional distributing library. All libraries have the same collections, so do not attempt to borrow records from more than one of these libraries.

- ☐ Auslander—My Uncle Jan—14 r. APH
- ☐ Austen—Emma—35 r. AFB
- ☐ Bakeless—Lewis and Clark—30 r. AFB
- ☐ Barnes—Within the Hollow Crown—24 r. AFB
- ☐ Bassett—Within the Harbor—11 r. APH
- ☐ Bromfield—The Green Bay Tree—22 r. AFB
- ☐ Carnegie—How To Stop Worrying and Start Living—22 r. APH
- ☐ Cather—My Antonia—17 r. AFB
- ☐ Chamberlain—Where the Sabia Sings—16 r. AFB
- ☐ Charnley—Jean Lafitte—10 r. APH
- ☐ Darwin—The Origin of Species—49 r. AFB
- ☐ Davis—Gallegher and Other Stories—10 r. APH
- ☐ Durant—The Story of Philosophy—43 r. AFB
- ☐ Eastman—Enjoyment of Poetry—21 r. AFB
- ☐ Haggard—Allan Quatermain—21 r. AFB
- ☐ Idell—The Great Blizzard—20 r. APH
- ☐ Kane—Natchez on the Mississippi—25 r. APH
- ☐ Mason—Eagle in the Sky—45 r. AFB
- ☐ Maule—Great Tales of the American West—28 r. AFB
- ☐ Morley—The Haunted Bookshop—12 r. AFB
- ☐ Niggli—Step Down, Elder Brother—29 r. AFB
- ☐ Noble—Woman With A Sword—34 r. APH
- ☐ Ollivant—Bob, Son of Battle—17 r. AFB

(see reverse side)

- ☐ Parrish—A Clouded Star—14 r. AFB
- ☐ Peattie—Audubon's America—26 r. AFB
- ☐ Proust—Swann's Way—37 r. AFB
- ☐ Roberts—Lands of the Inner Sea—25 r. AFB
- ☐ Walker—Count on Two Days—16 r. AFB
- ☐ Weyman—A Gentleman of France—30 r. APH
- ☐ Wickenden—Tobias Brandywine—26 r. APH
- ☐ Wilder—The Ides of March—16 r. AFB
- ☐ Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine—July, August, September, 1949 APH
- ☐ Reader's Digest—July, August, September, 1949 APH
- ☐ Talking Book Topics—March, June, September, 1949 AFB

Dear Libraran: I would like to borrow the titles checked on this list:

READER'S NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE POSTAL UNIT NO.

(SEE REVERSE SIDE)

Talking Book Topics

DECEMBER : : : 1949

VOL. XV *Issued Quarterly by the* NO. 3

AMERICAN FOUNDATION *for the* BLIND, Inc.

15 WEST 16th STREET • NEW YORK 11, N. Y.

Entered as second-class matter June 11, 1936, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of August 24, 1912.

Talking Book Topics

VOL. XV, NO. 3 DECEMBER, 1949

The American Foundation for the Blind is a national agency the purpose of which is to promote increasingly and uncompromisingly the interests of all the blind throughout the United States, in close cooperation with all local organizations.

TALKING BOOK TOPICS is issued by the Foundation in ink-print, and in Talking Book form, four times a year—in March, June, September, and December. A printed copy is sent to all readers, free of charge, to aid you in requesting titles from your regular distributing library. There is a subscription price of $1 a year for the recorded edition.

If you can afford the yearly subscription price of $1 in order to receive the magazine in recorded form, please tear out the coupon in this issue, have it filled in, and mail it to the Talking Book Department of the American Foundation for the Blind, 15 West 16th Street, New York 11, New York, accompanied by your remittance.

Enclosed find the sum of $1.00 to cover one year's subscription for the recorded edition of TALKING BOOK TOPICS. Please send this magazine to:

SUBSCRIBER'S NAME .....

STREET ADDRESS .....

CITY .....

POSTAL UNIT NO. .....

STATE .....

Our New Director

On September 15 Mr. M. Robert Barnett took office as Executive Director of the American Foundation for the Blind, succeeding Dr. Robert B. Irwin, whose retirement we announced in our last issue.

Mr. Barnett was born in Jacksonville, Florida. He lost his sight at the age of fifteen as the result of a Hallowe'en prank. He and some other youngsters tried to steal oranges from a local orange grove. The planter had a shotgun.

At the time he was a senior in a Jacksonville high school. Thereafter he attended the Florida School for the Blind in St. Augustine and went on to take a degree at Stetson University in Deland, where he graduated *cum laude* after being editor of two campus publications. He taught journalism for a while at Stetson, then, deciding to practice what he preached, became correspondent for the Associated Press, the Orlando *Sentinel,* and the Florida *Times-Union.*

Mr. Barnett went to the Florida Council for the Blind as placement officer and supervisor of the Employment Department. In October 1945 he became executive director of the Council. That same year he was elected president of the National Council of Executives of State Agencies for the Blind, a position he held until this year. He is married and has two children.

In the recorded edition of this issue of *Topics* he says: "It was not so many years ago that I was just another user of a Talking Book. In fact, about my first introduction to the American Foundation for the Blind was when I received one of the government-owned machines years ago. In those days I knew very little about the mechanics and details that went on behind the scenes to bring me the Talking Book and the machine on which the books are played. I was not, of course, a professional worker for the blind, as we now sometimes

Dec '49

call ourselves, and I had not even got into the mysteries of administration of agencies which serve the blind. In fact, I believe in those days I was a college student. The Talking Book came as an answer to a prayer. As with all other blind persons, the problem of reading the things that I had to read in order to keep abreast of the things I needed to know, as well as the things I wanted to read for sheer personal pleasure, was, as you all know, quite a problem. In my opinion, the Talking Book machine and the records that play on it, is perhaps the greatest single benefit that was ever contrived to help the blind. I'd like to tell you today that it is my intention, as administrator of the American Foundation for the Blind, to do everything I can to see that the recorded literature that is available to the blind is expanded more and more, so that you can get the things you would like to read; and I am sure that this can be accomplished with the cooperation that the U. S. Library of Congress has been showing to us."

NEW TALKING BOOKS

The following Talking Books, recorded for the Library of Congress, may now be borrowed from your regular distributing library.

AFB—*American Foundation for the Blind, New York.*

APH—*American Printing House for the Blind, Louisville, Kentucky.*

FICTION

Berlin, Ellin—LACE CURTAIN *(Doubleday, 1948)*—35 records —read by Kay Parker AFB

"Mrs. Berlin's second novel is a sympathetic and provocative study of one woman's search for emotional maturity. Veronica Reardon, seventh of the eight attractive Reardon children, grew up with her sisters and brothers at 'Pride's Tower,' their Long Island country place. Her father made a fortune and lived handsomely, a leader in New York's Irish Catholic circles. Devout, cultivated, loving

Dec '49

their family and their home, the Reardons brought up their children in luxury and security. For little Veronica, being part of a pattern was infinitely reassuring. But when, against her parents' wishes, indeed against the young man's own better judgment, she married young Jamie Stair, son of a prominent, conventional New York Protestant family, she was made acutely aware of all the narrow prejudices and deep-seated antagonism of the world of which she had, of her own free will, chosen to become a part."—Pamela Taylor, *Saturday Review of Literature.*

Boyd, Martin—LUCINDA BRAYFORD *(Dutton, 1946)*—37 records—read by John Brewster AFB

This novel represents a return to the leisurely tradition of English literature. It is wide in scope, covering four generations of a wealthy English family; big in canvas, giving a full-length picture of upper-class life in England from the 1880's to the early 1940's. But it is primarily the story of a beautiful, aristocratic woman, of the men she loved—and of the sorrow and happiness they brought her.

Cronin, A. J.—SHANNON'S WAY *(Little, Brown, 1948)*—17 records—read by Kenneth Meeker APH

Dr. Cronin's *The Citadel (AFB, 1946)* was the story of a man who tried to be a good doctor but was tempted by his desire for material success. *Shannon's Way* is the story of a doctor in his twenties who put his keen interest in medical research ahead of everything else in life. Robert Shannon, at the age of twenty-four, was one of the three assistants of Professor Usher in the Department of Experimental Pathology at the University. Burning with the painful ambition of a silent and retiring nature, longing in his poverty and obscurity to astound the world, he hoped by research to find the explanation for current epidemics in the British Isles and elsewhere loosely classified as influenza. But all the way his ambition was to be fraught with tremendous difficulties.

Douglas, Lloyd C.—THE BIG FISHERMAN *(Houghton Mifflin, 1948)*—42 records—read by George Patterson APH

This is the story of Simon Peter, that most lovable and human of the Apostles of Jesus. You meet him first at the Sea of Galilee, a powerful, two-fisted, profane and irreverent fishing boss, who lays down his nets to follow Jesus to Calvary. But the world of Peter

on the shores of Galilee was the crossroads of the world, warring then as it is now. It was a polyglot world of quarreling, scheming people living unmolested by Rome, only because she was busy in the West. It is from all these people that the author has taken the characters of his big book.

Goudge, Elizabeth—PILGRIM'S INN *(Coward-McCann, 1948)* —27 records—read by Kay Parker AFB

Here is the first novel by Elizabeth Goudge since her famous *Green Dolphin Street (AFB, 1946)*. And here is Miss Goudge at her best—magic atmosphere, appealing lovers, delightful children, irresistible animals and, best of all, an interesting and exciting story. The latter is presented against a background of fragrant countryside, magic woods, and the healing grace of an old house, whose history as an inn for pilgrims provides an exciting adventure for the Eliot family—and for the reader.

Thackeray, William Makepeace—THE NEWCOMES: Memoirs of a Most Respectable Family, Edited by Arthur Pendennis, Esq. *(Dutton, 1925)*—68 records—read by Del Roy APH

The plot of this loose and complex novel (1855) deals with three generations of Newcomes. It centers, however, around the career of young Clive Newcome, a youth of generous instincts and human failings, the son of Colonel Thomas Newcome, an officer of the Indian army, in whom Thackeray has drawn an admirable portrait of a simple-minded gentleman, guided through life solely by the sentiments of duty and honor.

Wescott, Glenway—THE GRANDMOTHERS: A Family Portrait *(Doubleday, 1927)*—21 records—read by Kenneth Meeker APH

This novel begins with the pioneer days of the family in Wisconsin and parallels, in part, the author's adolescence. The first chapter deals with Alwyn Tower as a small boy, the house in Hope's Corner, his grandmother Tower's keepsakes. The second chapter generalizes on Alwyn's knowledge of America—in retrospect, while in Europe. The chapters following are about his ancestors as Alwyn remembers them through stories, through boyhood acquaintance or from daguerreotypes. The final chapter of this saga of a family tells of his parents' removal to Brighton, of his grandmother Tower's death, and of Alwyn's understanding of her life's meaning

for his own life, scarcely begun, which would repeat the life of those who had gone before him, all the surprises to come being merely the result of earlier combinations.

MYSTERY AND DETECTIVE

Christie, Agatha—THE WITNESS FOR THE PROSECUTION and Other Stories *(Dodd, Mead, 1948)*—13 records—read by Burt Blackwell—APH

Agatha Christie's skill and versatility in the field of the short story are no less remarkable than in her full-length novels. All types of mystery story seem to flow with equal ease from her pen; psychological, suspense, chess-puzzle, humor, adventure-and-pursuit, intrigue, even mystery with romance. Here is a typical collection of her best work.

Cooke, David C., *Ed.*—BEST DETECTIVE STORIES OF THE YEAR—1948 *(Dutton, 1948)*—15 records—read by James Walton APH

Here, in infinite variety, are thrills, chills, suspense, suspicion, mayhem and murder enough to satisfy the most voracious mystery fan—written by thirteen top-notch writers in the field, including such stars as Ellery Queen, Q. Patrick, Anthony Boucher and Hugh Pentecost.

Innes, Hammond—GALE WARNING *(Harper, 1948)*—18 records—read by Horace Braham AFB

Serialized in The Saturday Evening Post under the title *Maddon's Rock,* this story was called by one authority "The most terrific yarn of the year." Crowded with exciting incidents, with piracy and shipwreck, heroism and cruelty, with gun battles, fires and a prison break, with the smell of stinging brine and the tremendous pounding of storm-tossed seas—it is a story of desperate men and one courageous girl, racing each other for a sunken fortune.

Stout, Rex—AND BE A VILLAIN *(Viking, 1948)*—12 records—read by James Walton APH

Motivated by money alone, Nero Wolfe involves himself in a crime which has been broadcast over a great national network. A leading lady of the microphone interviews a racetrack tout and a professor of mathematics. In the course of the interview, as a

plug for one of the sponsors, each guest is served a bottle of a well-known beverage. To the astonishment of the radio public, the embarrassment of the soft-drink manufacturer, and the annoyance of the New York Police Department, the racetrack oracle instantly drops dead of cyanide poisoning. This is only the beginning of a case more complicated than any Nero ever faced before.

Stout, Rex—Too Many Cooks *(Rinehart, 1938)*—15 records —read by William Lazar AFB

As guests of Louis Servan of Kanawha Spa, in the mountains of West Virginia, came twelve of the world's most famous chefs for their quinquennial meeting, to sample their colleague's creations and choose three new members for their select society. It was only natural that Nero Wolfe, gourmet as well as detective, should be invited with his inimitable raconteur, Archie Goodwin, but it was quite unnatural that a fourth vacancy should occur, deliberately and terribly, in the ranks of The Fifteen Masters. It was not only this that roused Nero Wolfe's ponderous form and agile brain to the solution of the mystery, but the possibility of attaining one of his own gustatory desires as well.

Taylor, Samuel W.—The Man with My Face *(A. A. Wyn, 1948)*—11 records—read by Lauren Gilbert AFB

Chick Graham enters his comfortable suburban home after work one evening to find himself already sitting in his own front room! Surprise, shock and terror mount as Chick's wife, his brother-in-law and his sister-in-law—not to mention his alter ego—treat him as a dangerous impostor. When his dog rejects him, his loss of identity is almost complete and he begins to question his sanity. Chick's attempts to unravel a tangled skein of intrigue and violence provide excitement all the way.

ADVENTURE AND TRAVEL

Cerwin, Herbert—These Are the Mexicans *(Reynal & Hitchcock, 1947)*—24 records—read by John Knight AFB

"Let me say at once that it is the best book on modern Mexico I have ever read. It gives the best picture of the country, its people, government, institutions and customs as they are today. Cerwin's insight and sympathy with the Latin American character is amazing in any outsider. His penetration into the real psychology of the Mexican people is outstanding, and this book, I believe, will really

have a large sale among people who wish to understand the psychology of our neighbors immediately to the south."—Dr. Sylvanus G. Morley, *foremost authority on Mayan civilization.*

Fergusson, Erna—CUBA *(Knopf, 1946)*—21 records—read by Livingston Gilbert APH

"You could not find a sounder, more interesting, more intelligent, more realistic account of what Cuba is, its people, their attitude toward life, the varying ways they earn their livings, its history, its physical aspect, its climate, its social framework. Yet, even an intelligent reader with no interest in the Latin American peoples to the south of us would find this book worth reading, as an example of how this sort of description and report on a country should be written. It is a model; first of all, of an orderly presentation of very complex facts, without a suspicion of dryness, and a model of tone, easy, informal, very human, without gossipy triviality."—Dorothy Canfield, *Book-of-the-Month Club News.*

Gautier, Emile Felix—SAHARA, THE GREAT DESERT—Translated by Dorothy F. Mayhew *(Columbia University Press, 1935)*—12 records—read by Jean Clos APH

This book describes the physical geography and geology of the Sahara, its past history, and its present changing economic situation. One chapter describes the introduction of the camel and its consequences.

THE TRAVELS OF MARCO POLO: The Venetian—Translated and Edited by William Marsden—Re-edited by Thomas Wright *(Doubleday, 1948)*—21 records—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

The record of the adventures of the Venetian merchant Marco Polo, ~~as dictated by him to a fellow-prisoner in Genoa~~, is one of the most remarkable books of travel ever written. Marco Polo was born ~~at~~ Venice about 1254. His father~~, a man of noble rank~~, in 1275 had taken young Marco with him on a trading expedition to China and the East. The youth ~~of twenty~~ entered the service of the Emperor of China and traveled extensively through the neighboring regions. Returning later to Venice, he was captured in the struggle between that city and Genoa. ~~It was in the year 1298 that Rusticiano or~~ Rustichello of Pisa wrote for him the history of his

wanderings. Though his narrative made a great sensation, it was for many years regarded as a mass of fabrications and exaggerations. It had an undoubted effect, however, upon exploration; and later researches have confirmed the truth of many of the author's descriptions.

ANTHROPOLOGY

Dorsey, George A.—WHY WE BEHAVE LIKE HUMAN BEINGS *(Harper, 1925)*—38 records—read by Robert Donley AFB

Who is Man? What is he? Why is he? This famous book, now in its fifty-third printing, is Dr. Dorsey's graphic and fascinating revelation of humanity from the biological, physiological and psychological standpoints. It deals with the growth and structure of the human body from the primordial stuff of the earth; the nature of life and its chemical and physical processes and the impulses which make men unique as individuals and as society. Written with thorough scholarship, it is at the same time clear, readable and fascinating.

BIOGRAPHY

Lothrop, Eleanor—THROW ME A BONE: What Happens When You Marry an Archaeologist *(Whittlesey House, 1948)*—15 records—read by Anne Seymour AFB

In this gay and lighthearted book, the author tells just what can happen when you marry a promising young archaeologist and decide to go along with him for better or worse. Their honeymoon was spent on a Chilean cattle boat where the cows came first, freight second, and she and her husband Sam an uncomfortable and unglamorous last. On beautiful Lake Atitlán, in Guatemala, they lived for weeks in a hostile native village where no foreigner had dared stay since the 1700's, and Mrs. Lothrop's curiosity almost brought about a lynching—her own. One hundred miles from the Canal Zone, where the Indians played marbles with gold beads the size of ping-pong balls, she went swimming with only crocodiles for company, threw an all-night party for eighty natives and made her biggest discovery of all.

Paul, Elliot—A GHOST TOWN ON THE YELLOWSTONE—*(Random House, 1948)*—19 records—read by Milton Metz APH

Mr. Paul reaches back to the year 1907 and to his youthful adven-

tures on a project of the United States Reclamation Service in Montana. With him you start on one of the oddest stagecoach rides in history—a ride in which, no matter how the passengers change at various stops, their number is always thirteen, a circumstance to make the driver consult his whiskey jug more frequently than usual. The hapless coach overturns, dumps its passengers into the sagebrush and thus precipitates the founding of the town of Trembles. Thenceforth you participate in some of the most astonishing, humorous and touching events ever to take place in that part of the Wild West.

Skinner, Cornelia Otis—FAMILY CIRCLE *(Houghton Mifflin, 1948)*—20 records—read by Terry Hayes APH

This is the story of a family. They are a famous family, and two generations of them are associated in most American minds with all the glamour of theatrical tradition. But these three people, Otis, Maud, Cornelia, are as natural and loving a trio as could be found in any hamlet anywhere in the U.S.A. Otis Skinner was a trouper, but Maud longed to be settled; so the family put down roots in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, where Cornelia survived school and dancing school and the other perils of adolescence to emerge as a full-fledged actress. She made her debut with a Broadway opening at the famous Empire Theater. We leave her there, holding her father's hand as the curtain rings down.

Thomas, Henry *and* Dana Lee Thomas—FIFTY GREAT AMERICANS *(Doubleday, 1948)*—41 records—read by Walter Gerard APH

From the diverse cultural, economic, political, and social backgrounds that go to make up America, here are the lives of representative Americans who have achieved success in the loftiest sense of the word. The authors say: "This book is an effort to present a composite picture of this American type. The material builder, the esthetic dreamer, the spiritual fighter, the inspired teacher, and the heroic defender of the American way: all of them, taken together, compose a united group representative of a united nation."

Worsley, Commander Frank—FIRST VOYAGE: in a Square-Rigged Ship *(Geoffrey Bles, London, 1938)*—17 records—read by James Walton APH

Commander Worsley was in the *Endurance* with Shackleton on

his Antarctic Expedition and is the author of two remarkable books, one on the expedition and one on Shackleton's famous boat journey. The present book is an autobiography, the first two chapters of which give a delightful picture of pioneering days and the author's own youth in New Zealand. The remaining chapters relate his first voyage as an apprentice in sail to England and back. He writes not merely with an intimate knowledge of the sea and ships, but with an unusual talent for recalling the day-by-day details of life in a windjammer.

HISTORY

Beard, Charles A. *and* Mary R. Beard—A Basic History of the United States *(New Home Library, Garden City, 1944)*—40 records—read by Eugene Earl AFB

"With this book," say the authors, "we bring to a close our many years of cooperative efforts in seeking to interpret the long course of American history. As its title indicates, the volume deals with fundamental activities, ideas, and interests which have entered into the development of American society from the colonial period to the contemporary age. Whatever may be added to the record here presented, a consideration of these activities, ideas, and interests is basic, we believe, to any understanding of American history."

Toynbee, Arnold J.—Civilization on Trial *(Oxford, 1948)* —19 records—read by John Knight AFB

"This is a collection of thirteen essays and addresses by the author of the monumental *Study of History.* They are, indeed, chips from that monument, for the theories of history, whether central or subordinate, exposed in Toynbee's great work, are here applied to a number of problems confronting thoughtful contemporary man. One basic conception binds them together—the author's notion that the greatest single historical experience of our time is the progressive Westernization of the world. To this is added the further insight that, more important in the end than the imposition of the West upon the world, is the fact that our dominant Western culture will be profoundly modified by the culture it apparently absorbs."—Clifton Fadiman, *Book-of-the-Month Club News.*

Turner, Frederick Jackson—THE FRONTIER IN AMERICAN HISTORY *(Holt, 1947)*—25 records—read by Eugene O'Neill, Jr. AFB

In July, 1893, in Chicago, Frederick Jackson Turner delivered before a special meeting of the American Historical Association a paper entitled "The Significance of the Frontier in American History." When in 1920 Turner published his book of essays *The Frontier in American History,* this paper headed the list of contents. It was destined, according to Charles A. Beard, to have a more profound influence on thought about American history than any other essay or volume ever written on the subject; it proved to be little more than epoch-making in conception and technique. Previous histories had been oriented in the East and South; Turner believed that many of the characteristics of the American mind and genius derived from its struggles with a frontier environment, seeking "the hither edge of free land"—its coarseness and strength, acuteness and inquisitiveness, and practical inventive faculty. He visualized American history as "a series of social evolutions recurring in differing geographic basins across a raw continent."

POETRY

Chaucer, Geoffrey—THE CANTERBURY TALES—Rendered into Modern English by J. U. Nicolson *(Covici-Friede, 1934)*—43 records—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

The great work of the poet Chaucer (1388) consisting of twenty-four tales told by a company of pilgrims going to visit the shrine of St. Thomas a Becket at Canterbury. The party first assembles at the Tabard, an inn in Southwark, and there agrees to tell one tale each both going and returning; the person who tells the best tale is to be treated by the rest to a supper at the Tabard on the homeward journey. The party consists of twenty-nine pilgrims, so that the whole budget of tales would have been fifty-eight; but only twenty-three and the fragment of another were told.

RELIGION

Goodspeed, Edgar J.—PAUL *(Winston, 1947)*—15 records—read by William Gladden APH

"Of all the followers of Jesus, none made so great a contribution

to the thinking of mankind as Paul." This is the story of that Paul, once Saul of Tarsus in Cilicia. Born about fifteen years after Jesus, at the close of the reign of the great Roman Emperor Augustus, this Jewish Pharisee boy grew up as inheritor of all the traditions of the tribe of Benjamin and of Roman citizenship. It is this sensitive, gifted boy whom Dr. Goodspeed takes through childhood to the Damascus road, through his doubt and questioning period to the time when both his spirit and his mind were emancipated.

UNITED STATES

Fergusson, Erna—Our Southwest *(Knopf, 1940)*—22 records—read by Jean Clos APH

Arizona, New Mexico, western Texas, and southern Colorado—these states are our land of living romance. Its allure never dims, for it is a corner of our country where the past meets the present. You catch your archaeology alive, for the Indians live and worship as they did four hundred years ago. You can also catch your history in the making, for many little villages still speak Spanish and carry on customs of the ancestors who settled them in the sixteenth century. This book tells what this land is, what its people are, what they mean by the curious words they use, why they ride with a long stirrup and smother if the horizon is only twenty miles away.

Hanna, Alfred Jackson *and* Kathryn Abbey Hanna—Lake Okeechobee: Wellspring of the Everglades *(Bobbs-Merrill, 1948)*—25 records—read by Eugene Earl AFB

"This panorama of the Florida Lake Okeechobee and northern Everglades region moves through the colonial eras, past the early American period when the Seminole struggled against the loss of his lands and against removal to the Oklahoma reservations, down to and through the past half century in which the modern contrivances of man have gained mastery over a water-laden soil. Long clothed in mystery, the Okeechobee region has been opened to hordes of migrants and settlers during the past one hundred years, and in this period the narrative centers."—*U.S. Quarterly Book List.*

CHECK THE TITLES YOU WISH TO BORROW, DETACH THE LIST AND MAIL IT TO YOUR TALKING BOOK LIBRARY—**NOT TO THE FOUNDATION.**

Talking Books should be borrowed from your nearest regional distributing library. All libraries have the same collections, so do not attempt to borrow records from more than one of these libraries.

- ☐ Beard—A Basic History of the United States—40 r. AFB
- ☐ Berlin—Lace Curtain—35 r. AFB
- ☐ Boyd—Lucinda Brayford—37 r. AFB
- ☐ Cerwin—These Are the Mexicans—24 r. AFB
- ☐ Chaucer—The Canterbury Tales—43 r. AFB
- ☐ Christie—The Witness for the Prosecution—13 r. APH
- ☐ Cooke—Best Detective Stories of the Year—1948—15 r. APH
- ☐ Cronin—Shannon's Way—17 r. APH
- ☐ Dorsey—Why We Behave Like Human Beings—38 r. AFB
- ☐ Douglas—The Big Fisherman—42 r. APH
- ☐ Fergusson—Cuba—21 r. APH
- ☐ Fergusson—Our Southwest—22 r. APH
- ☐ Gautier—Sahara, The Great Desert—12 r. APH
- ☐ Goodspeed—Paul—15 r. APH
- ☐ Goudge—Pilgrim's Inn—27 r. AFB
- ☐ Hanna—Lake Okeechobee—25 r. AFB
- ☐ Innes—Gale Warning—18 r. AFB
- ☐ Lothrop—Throw Me a Bone—15 r. AFB
- ☐ Paul—A Ghost Town on the Yellowstone—19 r. APH
- ☐ The Travels of Marco Polo—21 r. AFB
- ☐ Skinner—Family Circle—20 r. APH
- ☐ Stout—And Be a Villain—12 r. APH
- ☐ Stout—Too Many Cooks—15 r. AFB

(SEE REVERSE SIDE)

- ☐ Taylor—The Man With My Face—11 r. AFB
- ☐ Thackeray—The Newcomes—68 r. APH
- ☐ Thomas—Fifty Great Americans—41 r. APH
- ☐ Toynbee—Civilization on Trial—19 r. AFB
- ☐ Turner—The Frontier in American History—25 r. AFB
- ☐ Wescott—The Grandmothers—21 r. APH
- ☐ Worsley—First Voyage—17 r. APH
- ☐ Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine—October, November, December, 1949 APH
- ☐ Reader's Digest—October, November, December, 1949 APH
- ☐ Talking Book Topics—March, June, September, December, 1949 AFB

Dear Librarian: I would like to borrow the titles checked on this list:

READER'S NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

POSTAL UNIT NO.

STATE

(SEE REVERSE SIDE)

TALKING BOOK TOPICS

VOL. XV, NO. 4 MARCH, 1950

Issued Quarterly by the

AMERICAN FOUNDATION *for the* BLIND, Inc.

15 WEST 16th STREET • NEW YORK 11, N. Y.

Entered as second-class matter June 11, 1936, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of August 24, 1912.

Talking Book Topics

VOL. XV, NO. 4 MARCH, 1950

The American Foundation for the Blind is a national agency the purpose of which is to promote increasingly and uncompromisingly the interests of all the blind throughout the United States, in close cooperation with all local organizations.

TALKING BOOK TOPICS is issued by the Foundation in ink-print, and in Talking Book form, four times a year—in March, June, September, and December. A printed copy is sent to all readers, free of charge, to aid you in requesting titles from your regular distributing library. There is a subscription price of $1 a year for the recorded edition.

If you can afford the yearly subscription price of $1 in order to receive the magazine in recorded form, please tear out the coupon in this issue, have it filled in, and mail it to the Talking Book Department of the American Foundation for the Blind, 15 West 16th Street, New York 11, New York, accompanied by your remittance.

Enclosed find the sum of $1.00 to cover one year's subscription for the recorded edition of TALKING BOOK TOPICS. Please send this magazine to:

SUBSCRIBER'S NAME .....

STREET ADDRESS .....

CITY .....

POSTAL UNIT NO. .....

STATE .....

NEW TALKING BOOKS

The following Talking Books, recorded for the Library of Congress, may now be borrowed from your regular distributing library.

AFB—*American Foundation for the Blind, New York.*

APH—*American Printing House for the Blind, Louisville, Kentucky.*

FICTION

Boyd, James—MARCHING ON *(Scribner's, 1927)*—22 records—read by Burt Blackwell APH

The Civil War from the Southern point of view is the background for this excellent historical romance. The hero is the James Fraser whose ancestors of the Revolutionary period appeared in the author's *Drums (AFB 1937)*. Intermingled with his love story are vivid scenes of life in Confederate ranks and federal prisons.

Curwood, James Oliver—KAZAN *(Bobbs-Merrill, 1914)*—14 records—read by Bucky Kozlow APH

The tale of a "quarter-strain wolf and three-quarters husky" torn between the call of the human and his wild mate.

Knight, Brigid—SOUTHERN CROSS *(Doubleday, 1949)*—19 records—read by James Baskerville APH

Elizabeth Hugo, born de Villiers, was the daughter of Boer Parents in South Africa. An orphan at birth, she was adopted by the English Shaws and brought up with their family until she was nine years old. Then her Boer aunt claimed her and set about with unbending tyranny to eradicate the British influence of the Shaws. Elizabeth lived with her aunt until she married Petrus Hugo, a man many years her senior. Although their life together was happy, it was never completely without the old struggle of English versus Boer. There was never an escape from a tension that reached its climax for Elizabeth when it became evident that she must make

a choice that would mean the preservation or absolute destruction of her marriage.

*Knight, Brigid—THE VALIANT LADY *(Doubleday, 1947)*—36 records—read by Ethel Everett AFB

This is a panorama of three generations of a Dutch family in the sixteenth-century wars with Spain, but it is principally the story of Anna van Breda, beautiful wife of a Dutch farmer—a mild yet strongly courageous woman—and her conflict between her religious conscience and her patriotism. When a wounded Spanish soldier found his way to Anna's farmhouse, she could not bring herself to kill him. Instead she hid him until he recovered and then let him go. It was this act of mercy which became the dominant fact of her life and later saved her from death.

MacLennan, Hugh—THE PRECIPICE *(Duell, Sloan & Pearce, 1948)*—27 records—read by John Brewster AFB

"This, as far as my experience goes, is the first book in which the subtle but deep differences between the American and the Canadian temperament are worked out in terms of dramatic fiction. The heroine, Lucy, has been brought up in a small Canadian town in Ontario, where a Calvinist suppression sets the tone of every worthy life. But an athletic American, who is as much a victim of the need to expand as Lucy of the necessity to contract, upsets the equation. Lucy runs off with him and the drama begins. The novel tries to do too much, and the author, in the attempt to describe harsh, brittle New York in wartime, and another Canadian type, a youth also in love with Lucy, sometimes is confusing, yet he succeeds brilliantly in his contrast between two peoples, both of whom have an aggressive Puritanism in their roots."—Henry Seidel Canby, *Book-of-the-Month Club News.*

If you have a Government Talking Book machine in need of repairs, do not send it to the American Foundation for the Blind. Send it to the state lending agency from which you borrowed it. They will repair it for you.

---

*Ten-inch records.

Meredith, George—THE EGOIST: A comedy in Narrative—with an Introduction by Wilson Follett *(Modern Library)* —39 records—read by Del Roy APH

First published in 1879, this is a fine illustration of a complete novel without a plot. It is a study of egotism. The egoist is Sir Willoughby Patterne, a consummate young gentleman of rank and fortune, who is only too well aware of his perfections. He determines to choose his wife prudently and deliberately, as befits the selection of the rare creature worthy to receive the gift of his incomparable self. In describing his successive courtships, Meredith presents a most natural group of fair women. The curtain falls on the dreary deadness of Sir Willoughby's incurable self-satisfaction.

Peterkin, Julia—SCARLET SISTER MARY *(Bobbs-Merrill, 1928)* —13 records—read by Livingston Gilbert APH

Awarded the Pulitzer prize for 1928, this novel is about a magnificent Gullah negress, Scarlet Sister Mary, who, with her baby Unex (short for Unexpected), is deserted by her worthless husband and learns that no man is worth a drop of water from a woman's eye. In her sensuous delight in color, music and rhythm, her healthy love of work and her reverent belief in charms, she reflects the life of the community in which she lives.

Seton, Anya—THE HEARTH AND EAGLE *(Houghton Mifflin, 1948)*—33 records—read by George Patterson APH

This is the story of a town, of a home, of a girl. It is the story of Marblehead from its earliest settlement to the present, of a family who settled and stayed there, and of a girl whose dramatic life contained the history of both. Hesper Honeywood was born to the sound of the sea, to the voices of seafaring men in the taproom of the family Inn, The Hearth and Eagle. As a young girl Hesper had waked in the little upstairs room to the raptures of first love. As an old woman she still heard the same sea-sounds on waking, but many things had happened to the Inn and to Marblehead, just as many things had happened to Hesper, the quiet New Englander whose serenity had been so dearly won.

Smith, Dodie—I Capture the Castle *(Little, Brown, 1948)*—21 records—read by Terry Hayes APH

For a tantalizing compound of sweet innocence, a woman's wisdom, and plain guile we give you Cassandra Mortmain. Cassandra had that realistic if superstitious attitude which knows that day-dreaming a thing queers the chances of its ever really happening. So she was careful. If she hadn't been quite so careful she might have had an inkling of what was going to happen to her. For Cassandra fell deeply in love, a love that seemed to her hopeless, and under the stress of which she swiftly grew into a woman, aware of both the yearning loneliness and the secret rewards of loving.

ADVENTURE AND TRAVEL

Gibbings, Robert—Blue Angels and Whales: A record of Personal Experiences Below and Above Water *(Dutton, 1946)*—7 records—read by Sam Gifford APH

This is an enchanting excursion in warmer and more exotic waters than those of the Thames, the Wye and the Lee, which Robert Gibbings has celebrated in other books. While drifting in his canoe in Tahiti, the author looked down and discovered weird and romantic realms beneath the calm surface of the water. After that, with a diving helmet and sheet of xylonite for drawing under water, he went out to explore coral reefs in Bermuda, of which the Blue Angel is the mascot, and the Red Sea. Exquisitely beautiful, nightmarishly horrible, or inconceivably freakish, the inhabitants of the deep float through the author's musical prose and pictures in a fabulous procession.

Helmericks, Constance and Harmon—Our Summer with the Eskimos *(Little, Brown, 1948)*—14 records—read by Paul Clark APH

This book tells how Bud and Connie Helmericks flew across the Brooks Range to the Naval Base at Umiat, on the Colville. There they assembled their canoe, packed it full and took off down the current. It was some weeks before they again saw a human being,

and shortly after that they saw their first ocean ice floe. They struck east along the coast in the canoe, and came finally to rest at Beechey Point, where old Abraham operates a trading post. The book opens for the reader a part of Alaska and its people he has scarcely heard of. The authors introduce him to an immense game preserve teeming with life. And he meets the people who live here, the 250 Eskimos who are the sole inhabitants of the 60,000 square miles. Bud and Connie eventually met them all, and made good and firm friends among them.

Millar, George—ISABEL AND THE SEA *(Doubleday, 1948)*—23 records—read by James Baskerville APH

In 1946 George Millar and his wife, Isabel, embarked on a seven-month voyage on their yacht *Truant.* The *Truant* herself was a 31-ton auxiliary ketch, 49 feet long, with a 13-foot beam and a 5-foot draft. The naval commander who looked her over when the inexperienced Millars bought her didn't have too high an opinion of her seaworthiness, but *Truant* survived the Mediterranean's wildest displays of temperament. This is her story, and that of the Millars.

BIOGRAPHY

Allan, Herbert S.—JOHN HANCOCK: Patriot in Purple *(Macmillan, 1948)*—27 records—read by Walter Gerard APH

"As Mr. Allan points out, few patriots have been so perpetuated in name as John Hancock, 'but the memory of no other's personality and achievements has been so obliterated.' This book, attempting to restore that memory, traces Hancock's family background, his youthful rise to wealth and political influence, his career as president of the Continental Congress, and as governor of Massachusetts from 1780 to his death, in much greater detail than any previous biography. If it does not prove its claim that Hancock was 'the Hamlet of the great American historical drama,' it does show him a considerable figure and probably an essential one in the success of the early Revolutionary movement."—*U. S. Quarterly Book List.*

Donald, David H.—LINCOLN'S HERNDON—with an Introduction by Carl Sandburg *(Knopf, 1948)*—25 records—read by Gerald Buttorff APH

This life of Lincoln's friend, law partner, and biographer has a two-fold focus: on the "Abe Lincoln in Illinois" days; and on Herndon's long and wracking fight to publish his biography. In addition to being a moving account of the least known part of Lincoln's life, and a handbook of local politics still valid today, it is also, in its evaluations of attitudes toward Lincoln, an impressive study of mythmakers and mythmaking.

Hume, Edward H., M.D.—DOCTOR'S EAST, DOCTOR'S WEST: An American Physician's Life in China *(Norton, 1946)*—14 records—read by Paul Clark APH

When Dr. Hume went to China in the early years of this century to lay the foundations of the Yale-in-China medical school, foreigners were still looked on with coolness; the American doctor had to move cautiously to win Chinese confidence. As years passed, new orders clashed and China seethed with impending political change. But the work of the medical school grew in influence and helpfulness to the people it served. Dr. Hume's book builds a bridge of understanding through which such friendship can be reached.

Malone, Dumas—JEFFERSON: The Virginian *(Little, Brown, 1948)*—33 records—read by Paul Clark APH

"In this, the first volume of a four-volume life of Jefferson, Professor Malone traces Jefferson's ancestry, his boyhood and education, his brief experience as a lawyer, and the first fifteen years, 1769-84, of his long career as public figure, architect, inventor, author, scientist, and reformer. Including as it does the entire Revolutionary era, it deals with several of the great episodes in the life of one of the most interesting, as well as most important, Americans."—*U. S. Quarterly Book List.*

Merton, Thomas—THE SEVEN STORY MOUNTAIN *(Harcourt, Brace, 1948)*—34 records—read by Burt Blackwell APH

This is the autobiography of a young man who led a full and worldly life and then, at the age of 26, entered a Trappist monastery. Thomas Merton, already known as a poet, tells his life story from his birth in 1915 to his present existence as a monk. His book was written in the monastery at Gethsemani, Kentucky. It is the extraordinary testament of an intensely active and brilliant young American who decided to withdraw from the world only after he had fully immersed himself in it.

Nesbit, Henrietta—WHITE HOUSE DIARY *(Doubleday, 1948)*—19 records—read by Terry Hayes APH

"There will be five thousand to tea. . . ." "The President of Iceland will have breakfast at nine in his room." These are the sort of messages Mrs. Henrietta Nesbitt took in her stride during thirteen years in the White House—one of the largest, most complicated, and most fascinating households in America. Her story is a succession of intimate anecdotes of the great and the near-great—Alexander Woollcott, Paderewski, the King and Queen of England, José Iturbi, Winston Churchill, and of course the Roosevelt family itself. It is also a salty and sprightly record of the world's most demanding job of housekeeping.

Selle, Earl Albert—DONALD OF CHINA *(Harper, 1948)*—26 records—read by Livingston Gilbert APH

"William Donald was an Australian newspaperman. He went to China about forty years ago and became a 'Dutch uncle' to that confused, unoriented, unorganized, chaotic country; and, as a result, is one of the most fabulous characters of this century. As a white man who effectively steered the policies of the Chinese state through some of its most turbulent years, his historical importance cannot be overestimated. For many years, publishers have been after Donald's memoirs, but he was always too busy living to stop and talk about it. When he lay dying in Manila after a long siege in a concentration camp (unknown to the Japs, who had a price on his head), Selle, a Manila newspaperman, called to see him. Donald

liked him, turned over his notes to him, and this book emerged. It ought to be read for the information it contains; and the reading provides a painless education about things which explain much of the current situation."—Fred Smith, *Book-of-the-Month Club News.*

ESSAYS

Huxley, Aldous—JESTING PILATE: An Intellectual Holiday *(Geo. H. Doran, 1926)*—14 records—read by Jean Clos APH

This is the travel diary of a philosopher. Mr. Huxley encircled the earth, entering the East through Port Said and continuing through India, Burma, Malaya, China and home by way of the Pacific and America.

HISTORY

Sherwood, Robert E.—ROOSEVELT AND HOPKINS: An Intimate History *(Harper, 1948)*—81 records—read by the Author and Kermit Murdock—with a Message to the Blind of America by Harry L. Hopkins AFB

"It is a fair assumption that this two-volume work will rank along with Winston Churchill's history, as one of the two most important first-hand accounts of the Second World War. Its claim to this eminence will rest upon these facts: it is based upon enormous documentation—forty filing cabinets of Hopkins' memoranda, notes, cables, speeches, etc.; all of the greatest personages in the war, including the Big Three, are seen in almost continuous, close-up action; after Roosevelt and Churchill, Hopkins was probably the man closest to the inner workings of the great conflict, participating in the series of pivotal meetings from the Atlantic Conference to Yalta; Hopkins was, after Mrs. Roosevelt, probably the human being nearest to the President's mind, the mind in which the war found its most effective human focus; the intellect and character of Hopkins were admirably adapted to an overall, realistic understanding of the movement and meaning of the war; and, finally, in the distinguished public servant and dramatist, Robert Sherwood, intimate friend both of Hopkins and the President, the

Hopkins-Roosevelt story has found a sympathetic and extraordinarily intelligent interpreter."—Clifton Fadiman, *Book-of-the-Month Club News.*

HUMOR

Gilbreth, Frank B., Jr. *and* Ernestine Gilbreth Carey—CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN *(Crowell, 1949)*—12 records—read by James Walton APH

"Dad had enough gall to be divided into three parts." Dad was Frank B. Gilbreth, to the world a distinguished innovator in scientific factory management, and to his family of six boys and six girls a lively, unpredictable and wholly beloved autocrat. Their house in Montclair, New Jersey, was a sort of laboratory for the elimination of waste motions—"motion study" as the elder Gilbreth called it. The children made excellent, if occasionally unwilling guinea pigs. They paralyzed the Montclair schools, astounded the Nantucket natives, and routed the visiting psychiatrists. Their high jinks are faithfully reported by two of the famous dozen in this uproarious book.

Turlington, Catherine—THREE TO MAKE READY *(Vanguard, 1948)*—12 records—read by James Walton APH

Hilarious adventures in a family with three of the most normal teen-agers you've ever met. Whether it's a question of a new look ("Everybody's wearing strapless formals") or a question of getting the phone free from the teen-agers ("Don't you want us to be popular?") these three girls have all the answers. Mother (who tells the story) and the F. P. (Family Provider) just barely manage to survive a nerve-racking year coping with these utterly delightful—and enraging—onslaughts.

When ordering books from your librarian, why confine your choice to just those titles listed in TOPICS? *Remember that there is a general catalogue now, listing all Talking Books recorded through 1948. If you have not received a copy, write to your library for it.*

POST-WAR WORLD

Bradley, David—No Place to Hide *(Little, Brown, 1948)*—9 records—read by Paul Clark APH

This book contains a straight down-to-earth description of what an atomic bomb can do to ships, islands, seaports, harbors—and thereby to human beings. Its author was a "radiological monitor" with the task force that made the Bikini tests. He has given here a day-by-day account of the operation, seen not through the eyes of a technical expert, but by a doctor particularly interested in finding out the bomb's immediate and after effects on people, intensely aware that the results of these tests were of the utmost importance to him personally, as to each one of us.

Lang, Daniel—Early Tales of the Atomic Age *(Doubleday, 1948)*—14 records—read by William Gladden APH

A reporter's visit to Oak Ridge, Los Alamos, and Brookhaven; his interviews with scientists, workmen, and members of the Atomic Energy Commission. Human interest stories that make the whole question of atomic energy, its war and peacetime uses and control, intelligible as well as fascinating to the layman.

TRANSPORTATION

Marshall, James—Santa Fe: The Railroad that Built an Empire *(Random House, 1945)*—29 records—read by Morris Fleurnoy APH

The dream of Cyrus K. Holliday for a great railroad in the Southwest was based on the fabulous legend of the old Santa Fe trail over which, from the time of the Conquistadores, had come the riches of New Spain. The railroad that was to take over all this traffic, and more, was actually started at Topeka, Kansas, on a bleak October day in 1868. This is the story of how it was done, step by step, problem by problem; the Indian fighting, the depredations of buffaloes, the engineering feats, the battles for rights of way. It is a thrilling story of American adventure and empire

building. It is chatty, anecdotal, breezy, but packed into it is a vast amount of fascinating history, not only of a railroad, but of the whole Southwest.

UNITED STATES

Peattie, Roderick, *Ed.*—THE BERKSHIRES: The Purple Hills *(Vanguard, 1948)*—20 records—read by Morris Fleurnoy APH

"This most recent volume in the American Mountain Series deals with the gentle Berkshire Hills, and exactly because it does so may be less exciting to the mountain enthusiast than were the previous volumes of the series. The book is in two parts, the first dealing with the geography, flora, and fauna, the second with the people of the Berkshires. Intimate and personal in their approach, the contributors take the reader exploring along old trails, show him the finest views, impart the regional secrets of outdoor lore, explain the changes that have occurred in the landscape, among the people, and in the ways of doing things, and generally make him feel at home."—*U. S. Quarterly Book List.*

WORLD WAR II

Trumbull, Robert—SILVERSIDES *(Holt, 1945)*—9 records—read by Sam Gifford APH

This thrilling picture of our war in the Pacific, by the author of *The Raft (AFB, 1943)* is the story of one of our trans-Pacific submarines and of the havoc that she scattered the length and breadth of the seas Japan thought were her own.

TALKING BOOKS

1949

The following Talking Books, recorded for the Library of Congress, were placed in the distributing libraries during 1949. Borrowers who wish fuller descriptions of their contents are referred to the issues of TALKING BOOK TOPICS *in which they were originally announced. These are indicated by the letters M, J, S, D, for March, June, September, December 1949.*

FICTION

Aldrich, Bess Streeter—A LANTERN IN HER HAND—18 r. Patterson APH J

Auslander, Joseph *and* Audrey Wurdemann—MY UNCLE JAN—14 r. Blackwell APH S

Austen, Jane—EMMA—35 r. Mathews AFB S

Barnes, Margaret Campbell—WITHIN THE HOLLOW CROWN—24 r. Brewster AFB S

Bassett, Sara Ware—WITHIN THE HARBOR—11 r. Livingston Gilbert APH S

Bates, H. E.—THE PURPLE PLAIN—16 r. Meeker APH M

Bellamy, Edward—LOOKING BACKWARD: 2000-1887—17 r. Patterson APH M

Berlin, Ellin—LACE CURTAIN—35 r. Parker AFB D

Boyd, Martin—LUCINDA BRAYFORD—37 r. Brewster AFB D

Bromfield, Louis—THE GREEN BAY TREE—22 r. Knight AFB S

Cather, Willa—MY ANTONIA—17 r. Scourby AFB S

Chidsey, Donald Barr—STRONGHOLD—34 r. Walsh APH J

Crane, Stephen—THE RED BADGE OF COURAGE—9 r. Patterson APH M

Crawford, F. Marion—ZOROASTER—15 r. Lauren Gilbert AFB M

Cronin, A. J.—SHANNON'S WAY—17 r. Meeker APH D

Deeping, Warwick—SORRELL AND SON—25 r. James Walton APH J

Douglas, Lloyd C.—THE BIG FISHERMAN—42 r. Patterson APH D

DuBois, William—The Island in the Square—23 r. Parkhirst AFB M

Goudge, Elizabeth—Pilgrim's Inn—27 r. Parker AFB D

Haggard, H. Rider—Allan Quatermain—21 r. Brewster AFB S

Hardy, Thomas—Tess of the D'Urbervilles—31 r. Brewster AFB J

Hatch, Eric—My Man Godfrey—9 r. Blackwell APH J

Hawthorne, Nathaniel—The Marble Faun—27 r. Blackwell APH J

Iams, Jack—Prematurely Gay—11 r. Blackwell APH J

Idell, Albert Edward—Centennial Summer—25 r. Meeker APH J

Idell, Albert Edward—The Great Blizzard—20 r. Meeker APH S

Irving, Washington—The Alhambra—26 r. Murdock AFB M

James, Henry—Washington Square—13 r. Brewster AFB M

Keyes, Frances Parkinson—Came a Cavalier—42 r. Blackwell APH M

Leaf, Munro—Aesop's Fables—4 r. Scourby AFB M

Mason, F. van Wyck—Eagle in the Sky—45 r. Addy AFB S

McCrone, Guy—Red Plush—42 r. Livingston Gilbert APH M

Meredith, George—Diana of the Crossways—30 r. Livingston Gilbert APH J

Niggli, Josephina—Step Down, Elder Brother—29 r. Scourby AFB S

Noble, Hollister—Woman with a Sword—34 r. Patterson APH S

Ollivant, Alfred—Bob, Son of Battle—17 r. Donley AFB S

Parrish, Anne—A Clouded Star—14 r. Fellows AFB S

Proust, Marcel—Swann's Way—37 r. Scourby AFB S

Rice, Alice Hegan—Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch—4 r. Robinson APH J

Richter, Conrad—The Fields—12 r. James Walton APH J

Rinehart, Mary Roberts—A Light in the Window—24 r. James Walton APH J

Scott, Sir Walter—Waverley—33 r. Fleurnoy APH M

Thackeray, William Makepeace—The Newcomes—68 r. Roy APH D

Walker, Mannix—COUNT ON TWO DAYS—16 r. McComb AFB S

Wescott, Glenway—THE GRANDMOTHERS—21 r. Meeker APH D

Weyman, Stanley J.—A GENTLEMAN OF FRANCE—30 r. Gladden APH S

White, Nelia Gardner—NO TRUMPET BEFORE HIM—25 r. Lauren Gilbert AFB J

Wickenden, Dan—TOBIAS BRANDYWINE—26 r. Blackwell APH S

Wilder, Thornton—THE IDES OF MARCH—16 r. Scourby AFB S

COLLECTIONS

Davis, Richard Harding—GALLEGHER AND OTHER STORIES—10 r. Blackwell APH S

Felton, Harold W., *Ed.*—LEGENDS OF PAUL BUNYAN—20 r. Donley AFB J

Maule, Harry E., *Ed.*—GREAT TALES OF THE AMERICAN WEST—28 r. Various Readers AFB S

Mitchell, Edwin Valentine, *Ed.*—GREAT FISHING STORIES—14 r. Earl AFB M

Pearce, T. M. *and* A. P. Thomason, *Eds.*—SOUTHWESTERNERS WRITE —24 r. Livingston Gilbert APH M

MYSTERY AND DETECTIVE

Christie, Agatha—THE WITNESS FOR THE PROSECUTION and Other Stories—13 r. Blackwell APH D

Cooke, David C., *Ed.*—BEST DETECTIVE STORIES OF THE YEAR—1948—15 r. James Walton APH D

Hughes, Dorothy B.—IN A LONELY PLACE—15 r. McCarthy AFB J

Innes, Hammond—GALE WARNING—18 r. Braham AFB D

Morley, Christopher—THE HAUNTED BOOKSHOP—12 r. Murdock AFB S

Stout, Rex—AND BE A VILLAIN—12 r. James Walton APH D

Stout, Rex—TOO MANY COOKS—15 r. Lazar AFB D

Taylor, Samuel W.—THE MAN WITH MY FACE—11 r. Lauren Gilbert AFB D

ADVENTURE AND TRAVEL

Andrews, Roy Chapman—An Explorer Comes Home—15 r. Knight AFB M

Cable, Mildred *with* Francesca French—The Gobi Desert—27 r. Steell AFB M

Cerwin, Herbert—These are the Mexicans—24 r. Knight AFB D

Fergusson, Erna—Cuba—21 r. Livingston Gilbert APH D

Gautier, Emile Felix—Sahara, the Great Desert—12 r. Clos APH D

The Travels of Marco Polo—21 r. Scourby AFB D

Roberts, W. Adolphe—Lands of the Inner Sea—25 r. Lazar AFB S

Yates, Haydie—70 Miles from a Lemon—14 r. Hayes APH J

AGRICULTURE

Bromfield, Louis—Malabar Farm—33 r. Clark APH J

ANTHROPOLOGY

Dorsey, George A.—Why We Behave Like Human Beings—38 r. Donley AFB D

Linton, Ralph *and* Adelin Linton—Man's Way, From Cave to Skyscraper—11 r. Clark APH M

BIOGRAPHY

Bakeless, John—Lewis and Clark—30 r. Earl AFB S

Chamberlain, Henriqueta—Where the Sabiá Sings—16 r. Author and Tyrrell AFB S

Charnley, Mitchell V.—Jean Lafitte—10 r. Metz—APH S

Eaton, Jeannette—David Livingstone—11 r. James Walton APH J

Edman, Irwin—Philosopher's Holiday—15 r. Meeker APH J

Fay, Bernard—The Two Franklins—21 r. Sidney Walton AFB M

Lothrop, Eleanor—Throw Me a Bone—15 r. Seymour AFB D

McCracken, Harold—Frederic Remington—8 r. Gerard APH M

Paul, Elliot—A Ghost Town on the Yellowstone—19 r. Metz APH D

Skinner, Cornelia Otis—Family Circle—20 r. Hayes APH D

Thomas, Henry *and* Dana Lee Thomas—Fifty Great Americans—41 r. Gerard APH D

Worsley, Commander Frank—First Voyage: In a Square-Rigged Ship—17 r. James Walton APH D

Wright, Richard—Black Boy—17 r. Lee AFB J

CHILD CARE

Spock, Benjamin, M.D.—The Common Sense Book of Baby and Child Care—34 r. Hayes APH M

EDUCATION

Fine, Benjamin—Our Children are Cheated—19 r. O'Neill AFB M

ESSAYS

Leacock, Stephen—My Remarkable Uncle—12 r. James Walton APH M

Lewis, Lloyd—It Takes All Kinds—15 r. Patterson APH M

HISTORY

Beard, Charles A. *and* Mary R. Beard—A Basic History of the United States—40 r. Earl AFB D

Miers, Earl Schenck *and* Richard A. Brown, *Eds.*—Gettysburg—14 r. Livingston Gilbert APH J

Toynbee, Arnold J.—Civilization on Trial—19 r. Knight AFB D

Turner, Frederick Jackson—The Frontier in American History—25 r. O'Neill AFB D

LANGUAGE

Lloyd, Charles Allen—We Who Speak English—19 r. Gerard APH J

LITERARY HISTORY AND CRITICISM

Eastman, Max—ENJOYMENT OF POETRY: With Other Essays in Aesthetics—21 r. Scourby AFB S

MUSIC

O'Connell, Charles—THE OTHER SIDE OF THE RECORD—19 r. Gerard APH M

NATURAL HISTORY

Darwin, Charles—THE ORIGIN OF SPECIES—49 r. O'Neill AFB S

PHILOSOPHY

Dimnet, Ernest—THE ART OF THINKING—12 r. Gladden APH J

Durant, Will—THE STORY OF PHILOSOPHY—43 r. Sidney Walton AFB S

POETRY

Chaucer, Geoffrey—THE CANTERBURY TALES—43 r. Scourby AFB D

PSYCHOLOGY

Carnegie, Dale—HOW TO STOP WORRYING AND START LIVING—22 r. Fleurnoy APH S

RELIGION

Goodspeed, Edgar J.—HOW TO READ THE BIBLE—17 r. Donley AFB J

Goodspeed, Edgar J.—PAUL—15 r. Gladden APH D

The Holy Bible:

THE BOOK OF PSALMS—9 r. Scourby AFB M
THE PROVERBS—4 r. Scourby AFB M
} *in one container*

THE GOSPEL OF ST. MATTHEW—5 r. Scourby AFB M
THE GOSPEL OF ST. MARK—3 r. Scourby AFB M
THE GOSPEL OF ST. LUKE—5 r. Scourby AFB M
THE GOSPEL OF ST. JOHN—4 r. Scourby AFB M

in one container

If you would like to own Talking Book records of the Bible, the American Bible Society has the complete King James Version on 169 records which they sell to blind persons at the special price of 25 cents a record, plus 2 cents a record for wrapping and mailing. Write to the American Bible Society, Blind Department, 450 Park Avenue, New York 22, N. Y.

SPORTS

Griffith, Corinne—MY LIFE WITH THE REDSKINS—14 r. Hayes APH J

Marsh, Irving T. *and* Edward Ehre, *Eds.*—BEST SPORTS STORIES—1947—20 r. Lazar AFB J

Ruth, George Herman—THE BABE RUTH STORY—15 r. Gladden APH J

UNITED STATES

Fergusson, Erna—OUR SOUTHWEST—22 r. Clos APH D

Hanna, Alfred Jackson *and* Kathryn Abbey Hanna—LAKE OKEECHOBEE—25 r. Earl AFB D

Kane, Harnett T.—NATCHEZ ON THE MISSISSIPPI—25 r. Gladden APH S

Peattie, Donald Culross, *Ed.*—AUDUBON'S AMERICA—26 r. Knight AFB S

WORLD WAR II

Halsey, Fleet Admiral William F., USN *and* Lt. Com. J. Bryan III, USNR—ADMIRAL HALSEY'S STORY—24 r. Donley AFB M

FOREIGN LANGUAGE—FRENCH

Bourget, Paul—Le Disciple—19 r. Franc AFB J

France, Anatole—Le Crime De Sylvestre Bonnard—13 r. Franc AFB M

Proust, Marcel—Du Côté De Chez Swann—37 r. Franc AFB J

Roy, Gabrielle—Bonheur D'Occasion—30 r. Franc AFB M

TALKING BOOK READERS 1949

AFB

Wesley Addy
Horace Braham
John Brewster
Henriqueta Chamberlain
Robert Donley
Eugene Earl
Hugh Fellows
Robert Franc
Larry Gates
Lauren Gilbert
House Jameson
Steele Kennedy
John Knight
Bucky Kozlow
William Lazar
Canada Lee
Carmen Mathews
Kevin McCarthy
Kate McComb
Kermit Murdock
Eugene O'Neill, Jr.
Clifford W. Osborne
Kay Parker
Douglass Parkhirst
Franklin Pulaski
Anthony Ross
Alexander Scourby
Anne Seymour
Susan Steell
Victor Thorley
Ann Tyrrell
John Unterecker
Sidney Walton
Bob Warren
Howard Wierum

APH

Burt Blackwell
Paul Clark
Jean Clos
Morris Fleurnoy
Walter Gerard
Livingston Gilbert
William Gladden
Terry Hayes
Kenneth Meeker
Milton Metz
George Patterson
Miriam Robinson
Del Roy
George Walsh
James Walton

CHECK THE TITLES YOU WISH TO BORROW, DETACH THE LIST AND MAIL IT TO YOUR TALKING BOOK LIBRARY—**NOT TO THE FOUNDATION.**

FOR ADDITIONAL TITLES CONSULT YOUR CATALOGUE OF TALKING BOOKS FOR THE BLIND 1934-1948

Compiled by Division for the Blind
Library of Congress

- ☐ Allan—John Hancock—27 r. APH
- ☐ Boyd—Marching On—22 r. APH
- ☐ Bradley—No Place to Hide—9 r. APH
- ☐ Curwood—Kazan—14 r. APH
- ☐ Donald—Lincoln's Herndon—25 r. APH
- ☐ Gibbings—Blue Angels and Whales—7 r. APH
- ☐ Gilbreth—Cheaper by the Dozen—12 r. APH
- ☐ Helmericks—Our Summer with the Eskimos—14 r. APH
- ☐ Hume—Doctor's East, Doctor's West—14 r. APH
- ☐ Huxley—Jesting Pilate—14 r. APH
- ☐ Knight—Southern Cross—19 r. APH
- ☐ Knight—The Valiant Lady—36 r. AFB
- ☐ Lang—Early Tales of the Atomic Age—14 r. APH
- ☐ MacLennan—The Precipice—27 r. AFB
- ☐ Malone—Jefferson: The Virginian—33 r. APH
- ☐ Marshall—Santa Fe: The Railroad that Built an Empire—29 r. APH
- ☐ Meredith—The Egoist—29 r. APH
- ☐ Merton—The Seven Story Mountain—34 r. APH
- ☐ Millar—Isabel and the Sea—23 r. APH
- ☐ Nesbit—White House Diary—19 r. APH
- ☐ Peattie—The Berkshires—20 r. APH

(SEE REVERSE SIDE)

☐ Peterkin—Scarlet Sister Mary—13 r. APH
☐ Selle—Donald of China—26 r. APH
☐ Seton—The Hearth and Eagle—33 r. APH
☐ Sherwood—Roosevelt and Hopkins—81 r. AFB
☐ Smith—I Capture the Castle—21 r. APH
☐ Trumbull—Silversides—9 r. APH
☐ Turlington—Three to Make Ready—12 r. APH
☐ Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine—January, February, March, 1950 APH
☐ Reader's Digest—January, February, March, 1950 APH
☐ Talking Book Topics—March, 1950 AFB

Dear Librarian: I would like to borrow the titles checked on this list:

READER'S NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE POSTAL UNIT NO.

(SEE REVERSE SIDE)

TALKING BOOK TOPICS

VOL. XVI, NO. 1 JUNE, 1950

Issued Quarterly by the

AMERICAN FOUNDATION *for the* BLIND, Inc.

15 WEST 16th STREET • NEW YORK 11, N. Y.

Entered as second-class matter June 11, 1936, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of August 24, 1912.

Talking Book Topics

VOL. XVI, NO. 1 JUNE, 1950

The American Foundation for the Blind is a national agency the purpose of which is to promote increasingly and uncompromisingly the interests of all the blind throughout the United States, in close cooperation with all local organizations.

TALKING BOOK TOPICS is issued by the Foundation in ink-print, and in Talking Book form, four times a year—in March, June, September, and December. A printed copy is sent to all readers, free of charge, to aid you in requesting titles from your regular distributing library. There is a subscription price of $1 a year for the recorded edition.

If you can afford the yearly subscription price of $1 in order to receive the magazine in recorded form, please tear out the coupon in this issue, have it filled in, and mail it to the Talking Book Department of the American Foundation for the Blind, 15 West 16th Street, New York 11, New York, accompanied by your remittance.

Enclosed find the sum of $1.00 to cover one year's subscription for the recorded edition of TALKING BOOK TOPICS. Please send this magazine to:

SUBSCRIBER'S NAME _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

POSTAL UNIT NO. _____

STATE _____

NEW TALKING BOOKS

The following Talking Books, recorded for the Library of Congress, may now be borrowed from your regular distributing library.

AFB—*American Foundation for the Blind, New York.*

APH—*American Printing House for the Blind, Louisville, Kentucky.*

NIB—*National Institute for the Blind, London, England.*

FICTION

Aldrich, Bess Streeter—A White Bird Flying *(Appleton-Century, 1931)*—16 records—read by Kate McComb APH

In *A Lantern in Her Hand* Bess Streeter Aldrich wrote one of the most universally loved books. Where, in that book, she portrayed the pioneer generation, in *A White Bird Flying* she shows also the second and third generations. It is a compelling love story which rings a high note, and back of the personal lives of the characters one sees the changes which have come over the prairie states since the pioneers first came into the country in their covered wagons.

Bentley, Phyllis Eleanor—Life Story *(Macmillan, 1948)*—28 records—read by Jean Metcalfe NIB

The grandson of ninety-year-old Hannah Tyas tells the life story of that fierce little Victorian as he has pieced it together from the reminiscences of Hannah and other members of the family. This appealing tale of a very human being begins with Hannah's childhood, when she suffered under family tyranny; and progresses through her married life, which brought emancipation; her motherhood, when she unconsciously became a tyrant in her turn; and her old age, when her children turned the tables with their affectionate domination.

Blake, Forrester—Johnny Christmas *(Morrow, 1948)*—19 records—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

Individualist, free rover of mountains and deserts, Johnny Christmas's restless search for a way of life takes him to western Texas,

Taos and the hauntingly beautiful regions of the remote Rockies during one of the most thrilling decades of the nineteenth century. 1836 saw the defeat of General Santa Ana by Sam Houston and the establishment of the independent Republic of Texas. After escaping from a disastrous attack by the Comanches in the Cimarron desert, Christmas heads north and west: to Bent's trading post on the edge of the Great Plains; to Taos, where bitter hatred of America smoulders; to El Pueblo de los Angeles, last hope of a crumbling empire; and, finally, as advance scout of General Stephen Watts Kearny of the American Army of the West, to Santa Fe, whose fall in 1846 ended an era.

Cather, Willa—THE SONG OF THE LARK *(Houghton Mifflin, 1943)*—28 records—read by Kate McComb AFB

This is the story of an American opera singer, her childhood in the Colorado desert, her early struggles in Chicago, her romantic adventures among the Cliff Dweller ruins in Arizona, her splendid triumphs on the operatic stage. There is a diverting picture of musical circles in Chicago during the early years of Theodore Thomas's leadership. There are wonderful chapters on the Cliff Dweller ruins which first awake in the heroine the historic imagination so necessary to a great Wagnerian singer, and where she grows all at once into a powerful and willful young creature, gets her courage, and begins to find herself.

Davis, H. L.—BEULAH LAND *(Morrow, 1949)*—19 records—read by Milton Metz APH

This is a novel of the westward course to the end of the Oregon Trail. Here are individuals who develop through their experiences: Ewen Warne, strongly inventive, reasonably content, with a genius for the wrong woman; Ruhama, impulsive and hot-tempered; Askwani, practical and superstitious, devoted and caustic; Sedaya, haunted, embittered, a woman who had betrayed her lover to death.

De la Roche, Mazo—MARY WAKEFIELD *(Little, Brown, 1949)*—18 records—read by Terry Hayes APH

At Jalna, in the warm beauty of a Canadian summer, a turbulent love story was enacted in 1893. Readers of Mazo de la Roche's previous novels do not need to be told why the story was turbulent. Those who meet the vigorous Whiteoaks for the first time in

this novel will come upon them at a most crucial moment, when the whole course of the family as chronicled in the later novels is about to be determined.

Den Doolaard, A.—ROLL BACK THE SEA—Translated by Barrows Mussey *(Simon and Schuster, 1948)*—36 records—read by Robert Donley AFB

"The cold, gray, grim presence of the North Sea permeates this story of human beings, pitting their insect-strength against the full might of hostile Nature. On the title page, set as a text, is this sentence from a Dutch book, *Treatise on Dike Management*—'For your enemy Oceanus, day and night, rests not nor sleeps, but comes like a roaring lion seeking to destroy all that lies round about.' What Oceanus is trying to do is to ruin and obliterate the man-made island of Walcheren. What the big-barreled Dutch sea-engineers and 'water wizards' are trying to do is to rebuild (before it is too late) the great dikes shattered by Allied bombing. What the reader does is to stand by open-mouthed in admiration and excited astonishment, watching the ups and downs of the battle between giants, between the sea, and the will-power and trained skill of human specialists."—Dorothy Canfield, *Book-of-the-Month Club News.*

Eliot, George—MIDDLEMARCH *(1872)*—62 records—read by Duncan Carse NIB

This, the last but one of George Eliot's novels, she is said to have regarded as her greatest work. It takes its name from a provincial town in or near which its leading characters live. The author's aim was to show how the thought and action of even very high-minded persons is apt to be modified and altered by their environment.

Hewlett, Maurice H.—THE LIFE AND DEATH OF RICHARD YEA-AND-NAY *(Macmillan, 1901)*—20 records—read by Morris Fleurnoy APH

A boldly imaginative study of the life and character of Richard Coeur-de-Lion. While departing from strict accuracy in the record of events, the story revives the manners and emotions of the age of tournaments and crusades.

Hitrec, Joseph George—Son of the Moon *(Harper, 1948)*—35 records—read by Barry Doig AFB

The story of Vijay Ramsingh, a handsome young Hindu of the Rajput caste, who, legend maintained, was descended from the moon. Though he grew up in modern India and acquired a Western point of view after making the first solo flight from India to England, he was held in leash by his family and ancient Hindu custom. His rebellious spirit drove him into a full and exciting life, into bold attempts to convert his countrymen to his far-reaching schemes for modernizing India. He pitted himself almost single handed against India's myriad religious and political forces. Inevitable discouragements drove him into passionate but casual love affairs, and for long he fought clear of an orthodox, family-arranged marriage. But in the end, family and son chose the same bride—the lovely Chanda, a girl possessed of modern ideas and endowed with infinite allure and grace.

Kelland, Clarence Budington—Merchant of Valor *(Harper, 1947)*—16 records—read by James Baskerville APH

"I be but a merchant of valorous deeds. Fighting is my trade and my wares be battles and skirmishes." With these words the author sets the swift, exciting pace of his novel. Mr. Kelland's "Merchant of Valor" is handsome young Peter Carew. His story is one of thrills and mysteries, of clash of arms, of hairbreadth escapes, and all the warmth and color of Florence in the great days of the warring Medicis.

Kipling, Rudyard—The Jungle Books *(Doubleday, 1948)*—27 records—read by John Brewster AFB

Out of the welter of charming or amusing or exciting books for children a few remain enduring enough in their impression to become part of the reader's cultural equipment through life. Kipling's *The Jungle Books* is one of these. Hailed enthusiastically upon its appearance in 1894, it has remained a favorite of young and old and has gone into edition after edition. Here, once again, is Mowgli, the wolf boy; Shere Khan, the murderous lame tiger; Toomai, the elephant boy; and Rikki-Tikki-tavi, the agile mongoose. Without sentimentality and without scientific pedantry, Kipling has made animals the actors in his jungle dramas which are

startling in their beauty and in their revelation of the hidden world of beasts.

Laing, Alexander—THE SEA WITCH *(Farrar & Rinehart, 1944)* —34 records—read by Kenneth Meeker APH

With the authentic history of the ship *Sea Witch* for a background, the author has written a novel in which the epic age of seafaring lives anew. Steam, in the latter 40's, had bested sail. Then as a superhuman last gesture of handicraft and man-power, the clippers appeared; and for ten heroic years the trade of the world went back again to the windships, everywhere triumphant. Suddenly, wracked by a decade of achieving the incredible, the great clippers went almost in unison to their death. And the whole pageant caught story-tellers napping. No important novelist who saw the clippers was moved to write about them. It has remained for Alexander Laing to re-create those brilliant days.

Marquand, John P.—POINT OF NO RETURN *(Little, Brown, 1949)*—34 records—read by Burt Blackwell APH

In his early forties, Charles Gray is an assistant vice-president of the conservative Stuyvesant Bank in uptown New York. He is married, has two children and owns a modest house in a suburban town. He may be chosen for promotion to a vice-presidential vacancy but there is another assistant vice-president who has the same hope. If Charles loses out he will be too old to have much chance of future promotion, which is good reason why his ever loving but ambitious wife, Nancy, should be harassed by the situation. The answer will come the next Friday evening when they are to dine with Tony Burton, the president of the bank. This is a vivid and deep picture of the vicissitudes of small-town and middle-class American life in the twentieth century.

Moore, Ruth—THE FIRE BALLOON *(Morrow, 1948)*—23 records —read by George Patterson APH

Gram Sarah Sewell was over eighty and a terror to her children and grandchildren. She had a sweeping view of the town and harbor from her house on the hill, and the old telescope brought her close to everything in Scratch Corner. *The Fire Balloon* tells the story of Gram and her family, who seem as enduring as the rocks and tides of their own Maine country.

Muntz, Hope—THE GOLDEN WARRIOR: The Story of Harold and William *(Scribner's, 1949)*—29 records—read by John Brewster AFB

"It would be a gross injustice if *The Golden Warrior* should be mistaken for a mere historical novel, even for a superior one. It is far more than that. It is a saga of two authentic heroes and one of the great turning points of history, which recreates the glory and folly of the past with magical power. This is a chronicle of the sixteen years in which Harold rose from a banished fugitive to be the mightiest man in England, vice-king to Edward the Confessor and finally king himself, and then, so soon afterward, a dishonored corpse on the battlefield of Hastings. It is told in a series of short scenes tense with drama, with extensive and wonderfully expert use of dialogue. Using only a reasonable number of archaic words for flavor and atmosphere, it still seems like a contemporary document without a trace of the modern writer's laborious research. And it is focused entirely on character and action with no space at all wasted on details of costume, weapons, architecture, etc."—Orville Prescott, *The New York Times.*

Norris, Kathleen—CERTAIN PEOPLE OF IMPORTANCE *(Doubleday, 1922)*—36 records—read by James Walton APH

This chronicle-novel has been called Mrs. Norris's most ambitious effort. It is the history of the Crabtree family. From its dim New England origin, it follows one of its members, Reuben Crabtree and his family, to the middle west and later to California, where a new generation of Reuben Crabtrees live and flourish, marry, have children and die. The characters are described in detail with their human failings and kindlinesses, their good and their bad, their ups and downs in worldly fortunes.

Oursler, Fulton—THE GREATEST STORY EVER TOLD: A Tale of the Greatest Life Ever Lived *(Doubleday, 1949)*—26 records—read by Bucky Kozlow AFB

This retelling of the story of Jesus has made a deep impression on thousands of readers. Written by the man who created the famous radio program, which has won eleven national awards and millions of listeners, it has been highly praised by ministers of all Christian faiths.

Roberts, Kenneth—NORTHWEST PASSAGE: BOOK II *(Doubleday, 1937)*—25 records—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

Northwest Passage: Book I was recorded by the AFB in 1939, read by Alexander Scourby. This was the section which had been serialized in a periodical under the title of *Roger's Rangers.* Although it was a complete story in itself, many readers have requested the second half of the book, in which Major Rogers' later adventures are described. Here, at long last, it is.

Robinson, Henry Morton—THE CARDINAL *(Simon & Schuster, 1950)*—41 records—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

The story of an American priest who becomes, in our times, a Prince of the Roman Catholic Church. Born of working-class parents in a suburb of Boston, Stephen Fermoyle fulfills his priestly destiny in day-to-day trials, discouragements, aspirations, and triumphs. Virile and warm-hearted, this ordained servant of God encounters soul-testing problems that he must solve not only as a priest but as a sorely tried human being.

Stevenson, Robert Louis—KIDNAPPED—16 records—read by James Gray NIB

This book was published in 1886, when the author was thirty-six, and was his seventh work of fiction. In his own opinion, it was his best novel; and it is generally regarded as one of his finest performances in romantic story-telling. The full title reads: "Kidnapped: Being Memoirs of the Adventures of David Balfour in the Year 1751"; and the contents of the tale are further indicated on the title-page, thus: "How he was Kidnapped and Cast away; his Sufferings in a Desert Isle; his Journey in the Wild Highlands; his Acquaintance with Alan Breck Stewart and other notorious Highland Jacobites; with all that he Suffered at the hands of his Uncle, Ebenezer Balfour of Shaws, falsely so called."

Wellman, Paul I.—THE CHAIN *(Doubleday, 1949)*—29 records—read by George Patterson APH

John Carlisle, the new rector of St. Alban's Church in Jericho, was a disturbing change from the sort the vestrymen admired. His predecessor had been docile, unquestioning, unperturbed by the slums around his church. But not Carlisle. He vetoed plans for

building a new church in the wealthy section of town; he threw open St. Alban's door to the packing-house workers; he chose to live in the undercroft of the church rather than in the rectory. As Carlisle's campaign to win the confidence of the slum dwellers succeeded, his influence with the regular members of the parish waned for a time. Yet gradually they were won back by this strange, determined, monastic man. At last only the wealthy vestrymen stood against him. Then came the revelation, front-paged by the Jericho paper which unveiled the secret of John Carlisle's past. It hit the little town with all the force of a Kansas hurricane. And out of the violence came, finally, the inspiration which was to work the salvation of a whole community which had forgotten God.

Young, E.—Miss Mole—18 records—read by Gladys Young NIB

A witty and sympathetic character study of a housekeeper in the family of a non-conformist minister in an English provincial town. Outwardly Miss Mole is a shy, drab spinster; in reality she is a courageous adventurer, sensitive to beauty and to droll situations.

MYSTERY AND DETECTIVE

Blake, Nicholas—Minute for Murder *(1948)*—20 records—read by Alvar Lidell NIB

"Nicholas Blake, otherwise Cecil Day-Lewis, British poet, herewith offers jigsaw puzzlers the choicest item in quite some time, a good old-fashioned whodunit full of excitement and superior dodges of every sort, including a lot of fun. Naturally, the detection is fine."—Will Cuppy, *N. Y. Herald Tribune.*

Chesterton, G. K.—The Wisdom of Father Brown—16 records—read by Franklin Engleman NIB

The Father Brown Stories, of which this is the second volume, are a part of the history of distinguished detective fiction. Father Brown, who had "a face as round as a Norfolk dumpling . . . eyes as empty as the North Sea," and who carried about brown paper parcels and a large, shabby umbrella which constantly fell to the floor, was drawn from an actual character, a Catholic priest to

whom Chesterton had taken a liking. There is a whimsical humor about the Father Brown stories, and not a little sagacity and an inexhaustible ingenuity.

Cobb, Irvin S.—JUDGE PRIEST TURNS DETECTIVE *(Bobbs-Merrill, 1936)*—15 records—read by Morris Fleurnoy APH

Two short novels without individual titles about the Kentucky judge, who solves two crimes and rescues two young women in no more space than most detectives require for one.

ADVENTURE AND TRAVEL

Chapman, Wilbert McLeod—FISHING IN TROUBLED WATERS *(Lippincott, 1949)*—15 records—read by William Gladden APH

This is the saga of the trawler *Crystal Star* as she cruised on a singular mission through Pacific Islands during the war. The scientists aboard her, headed by Dr. Chapman, were sent out by the government to demonstrate the feasibility of establishing fisheries in the Solomon Islands, and their encounters with big and little sea animals, their contacts with native islanders, and their ever-present danger of being blown out of the water by enemy or friend add high-voltage suspense to the story.

BIOGRAPHY

Blankfort, Michael—THE BIG YANKEE: The Life of Carlson of the Raiders *(Little, Brown, 1947)*—25 records—read by William Gladden APH

This is the story of one of the most impressive figures to emerge from World War II. Evans F. Carlson is a living war hero who has won a place in the hearts of thousands of Americans through his courage, his humanity, and his grasp of the issues of war and peace. It is the story of Carlson the soldier and of Carlson the great American who has struggled against prejudice, complacency and ignorance to realize his vision of democracy in our military organizations and in the world at large.

Calkins, Earnest Elmo—"And Hearing Not—": Annals of an Adman *(Scribner's, 1946)*—25 records—read by Eugene Earl APH

This is the autobiography of the internationally famous advertising agency executive, who practically founded agency technique as it is known today. "You may have noticed in old-fashioned books," writes Mr. Calkins in his Foreword, "that the introduction or preface is sometimes headed 'Advertisement,' and that is what they were and still are, a foretaste to whet the appetite. This one begins in that category, and might just as well be printed on the book-jacket, and maybe it will be. And if I were to revert to my previous incarnation as advertisement writer I might say that the reader will find in this book if he looks carefully: a Manual for the Deaf; a Text-book on Advertising; a Financial Primer; an Introduction to Public Speaking; a Handbook on Hobbies; Some Advice on Contributing to Magazines; a Tract on Religion; a Guide Book to Travel; a Recipe for Happiness: all for the price of one book!"

Hagedorn, Hermann—Prophet in the Wilderness: The Story of Albert Schweitzer *(Macmillan, 1947)*—11 records—read by Jean Clos APH

Albert Schweitzer rocked the theological seminaries of the world with his "Quest of the Historical Jesus" almost fifty years ago and is now at work on the third volume of a revolutionary "History of Civilization." He is one of the foremost organists of Europe and the greatest living authority on Bach. When he was thirty, he renounced the promise of a great European career to give his life to the immediate service of mankind as a jungle doctor in Africa. In a word, he is one of the great men of our time. Mr. Hagedorn tells the story of his richly varied life with vividness and sympathy. His book is based on extensive research as well as on Schweitzer's autobiography, and on letters he has received from Doctor Schweitzer, answering specific queries, notably one of forty-seven pages telling of his life since his autobiography was published in 1929.

Ives, Burl—Wayfaring Stranger *(Whittlesey House, 1948)*—12 records—read by Morris Fleurnoy APH

"Burl Ives' own story has the color and naïveté of an American

primitive painting. A theme that in other hands would be arty and self-conscious he handles with simple, modest grace. He tells the story of his life in terms of anecdotes, gentle, amusing or sentimental tales, any one of which might be made into a street-corner ballad."—Katharine Scherman, *Book-of-the-Month Club News.*

Lamb, Harold—GENGHIS KHAN: The Emperor of All Men *(McBride, 1927)*—11 records—read by Jean Clos APH

"An account of the rise and conquests of this master strategist who marched his army across Tibet, over the Pamirs, through Afghanistan, Turkestan, Persia, Armenia, across Russia and into Poland and Hungary. This march has been acknowledged the greatest military feat in all history."—*N. Y. Times.*

Mann, William M.—ANT HILL ODYSSEY *(Little, Brown, 1948)* —20 records—read by Walter Gerard APH

The Director of the National Zoo is one of the most beloved figures in Washington today, a leader among natural scientists and a constant adviser to government and private naturalists, as well as a popular host and raconteur. Yet it is impossible to identify William Mann with any one spot on the globe or one set of associates. His friends cover the whole world, for he has ranged over most of it. In this book he has told of his travels, from the age of twelve, when he ran away from cow-herding to work on a Montana ranch, to his more recent and fully authorized collecting expeditions to the Fiji and Solomon Islands and the American tropics.

Pretorius, Major P. J.—JUNGLE MAN—with a Foreword by Field-Marshal J. C. Smuts *(Dutton, 1948)*—14 records—read by Paul Clark APH

Major Pretorius was born in Transvaal, South Africa, but he was one of those boys to whom search for adventure was as vital as is security to most people. He made up his mind that he would make a living by hunting for elephant tusks. With two or three faithful natives and a few dependable guns he went into the African jungle and stayed there without coming out for two or three years at a time. He was a natural hunter. During the East African Campaign in World War I, Major Pretorius served as

chief scout of Field Marshal Smuts' forces. One of his most amazing escapades was the unusual task of tracking down a ship in the jungle, when the German cruiser Königsberg went up the Rufiji River to hide from the British Fleet. Certainly no ordinary man could have gone through what Major Pretorius did and stayed alive and sane. *Jungle Man* is the record of an astonishing career.

Villiers, Alan—THE SET OF THE SAILS: The Story of a Cape Horn Seaman *(Scribner's, 1949)*—18 records—read by James Baskerville APH

It is remarkable that a man as young as the author can look back on almost three decades spent largely under sail, from earliest manhood on. In a year when sail virtually has vanished from the high seas, he can look back at such a life and see it still fresh and new. For the sea called to Alan Villiers early, and at fifteen he was a sailing-ship apprentice. It was the start of a robust career, in British ships, Scandinavian ships, Finnish ships, in whalers and Arab dhows. There was almost every hardship the sea can offer, but there were adventure and excitement, fine times to match the bad, and rewards enough to make a man call it a good life.

White, Walter—A MAN CALLED WHITE *(Viking, 1948)*—27 records—read by the Author and John Knight AFB

Walter White is a Negro with skin so light that anyone who does not know the facts would take him for a white man. When he was thirteen years old, he and his father knelt behind darkened windows in their house in Atlanta, Georgia, guns in hand, to defend their lives against a white mob which had already killed many Negroes in the Atlanta race riots of 1906. Then and there he decided that, so long as he lived, he would never join the army of those Negroes who "pass" for white. Twelve years later he became assistant secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People where, ever since, he has engaged vigorously in the fight to gain civil rights for Negroes. His autobiography has a compelling interest at a time when racial prejudice emerges more and more clearly as one of the world's most disturbing problems.

ESSAYS

Taber, Gladys—THE BOOK OF STILLMEADOW *(Macrae Smith, 1948)*—13 records—read by Miriam Robinson APH

This is a round-the-calendar record of things happening, of moods, of the buoyant hospitality of a New England farm, the companionship of dogs, candlelight and fireplace, good food, neighborliness, music, books, and hard work. Based upon Gladys Taber's well-loved "Diary of Domesticity" in the *Ladies Home Journal,* it is a record of the changing seasons of the land and the heart, at once intimate and personal, universal and timeless. "For me," says the author, "and for many women like me, and for many men, a small home in a green valley is security and the opportunity to make a happy life."

HISTORY

Eisenhower, Dwight D.—CRUSADE IN EUROPE *(Doubleday, 1948)*—43 records—read by Howard Wierum AFB

"There is a widely circulated story that the late General John J. Pershing, when told that an officer named Eisenhower was to command the invasion of North Africa, said that he had never heard of the man. If this was true he was in the same position as most of his fellow citizens, since it is one of the ironies of war that the public has seldom heard previously of the generals and admirals who fight for them. Few civilians knew of General Pershing either until he was sent out to capture Pancho Villa, and in the Civil War Robert E. Lee was a nonentity, except in his profession, and General U. S. Grant somewhat less. Like most of his predecessors, General Eisenhower, too, has taken to writing—and his account of his own war, like the works of older soldiers, is an unconscious revelation of character. His has the extrovert terseness of a man of action, the organization of the clear, disciplined mind, and, in addition, a pleasing frankness for which the General is famous. Though often intensely personal, one gains the impression that he is not primarily concerned with himself. Instead he is using his pages to tell the truth exactly as he saw it in a report which he owes to the millions of men who fought under him, to their families, and to all his fellow countrymen."—John Marquand, *Book-of-the-Month Club News.*

Prescott, W. H.—THE CONQUEST OF MEXICO: Designed for Modern Reading by Marshall McClintock *(Julian Messner, 1948)*—23 records—read by Livingston Gilbert APH

For many years Prescott's *The Conquest of Mexico* and *The Conquest of Peru* have been accepted as the greatest and most authoritative histories of the Spanish conquest of the Americas. But too many modern readers have missed reading these great classics because of the fine print, the lengthy footnotes, and a language and phraseology that is both leisurely and old fashioned. Now the first of these great works has been edited for modern reading. Marshall McClintock approached his task with a genuine respect for the great historian's scholarship and with a sincere admiration for his style and language. He has omitted documentary footnotes, lengthy philosophical digressions and, where the use and meaning of words have altered during the past hundred years, he has substituted modern equivalents. But he has preserved the flavor and essence of the original, and he presents *The Conquest of Mexico* much as Prescott might have written it were he writing it today.

NATURAL HISTORY

Teale, Edwin Way—THE LOST WOODS: Adventures of a Naturalist *(Dodd, Mead, 1945)*—15 records—read by Milton Metz—APH

At the age of six, the author rode with his grandfather on an expedition after firewood into the depths of a lonely and mysterious woods. The gnarled trees, the dim aisles, the winter stillness of this lost woods, a woods he was never able to find again in later years, cast a spell which set the pattern for a whole life's work. It produced an enduring interest in natural history and the ways of the non-human world. The adventures that resulted—adventures with animals, insects, birds, reptiles; adventures in wild places; adventures of an inquiring mind and a penetrating imagination—make up these memorable chapters.

POST-WAR WORLD

Crockett, Lucy Herndon—POPCORN ON THE GINZA: An Informal Portrait of Post-War Japan *(Wm. Sloane Associates, 1949)*—15 records—read by Terry Hayes APH

"As a subject for a book, Americans 'occupying' Japan are new. We know, for practical purposes, nothing at all about what happens to them there, day by day, about their impact on the occupied Oriental country, and the impact of that country on them. The author served for eighteen months with the American Red Cross in Japan, traveling widely all over the country, meeting every variety of Japanese man, woman and child. She does not claim to 'understand' the Japanese, nor to be able to predict what the result will be of this unheard-of juxtaposition of West and East. She pretends to do no more than to take us with her through these varied contacts with the Japanese. And that is enough to make a very interesting book."—Dorothy Canfield, *Book-of-the-Month Club News.*

RELIGION

Jones, E. Stanley—MAHATMA GANDHI: An Interpretation *(Abingdon-Cokesbury Press, 1948)*—13 records—read by Paul Clark APH

What manner of man was Mahatma Gandhi? What was the power that made him the spiritual leader of an oppressed and impotent India? What meaning has his life and death to a world spinning into chaos? No man is better qualified to answer these questions than E. Stanley Jones, world-famous missionary in India during her seething years. There are many values in his book. There is the portrait of Gandhi himself. There is the unfolding of India's struggle for independence and Gandhi's inspired and inspiring leadership of it. But for Christians the most sobering value is the revelation of how Gandhi, although not a Christian, decided to take a Christian attitude, the overcoming of evil with good, and of what happened—on an individual group, and national scale—when he followed this course without compromise.

THE HOLY BIBLE

The following releases complete the re-reading of the New Testament begun last year with the Four Gospels. Like the latter,

they are read by Alexander Scourby, thus making the New Testament available for the first time as interpreted by a single voice. Like their predecessors they were made through the generosity of the American Bible Society, which not only paid for the recording but also sells the Talking Books of the Bible to blind people at the special price of 25 cents a record. Through the cooperation of the Library of Congress, they are made available in the distributing libraries. Unlike all previous recordings of the Bible, however, these are on 10-inch records.

The New Testament (King James Version):

THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES—5 records—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

THE EPISTLE OF PAUL THE APOSTLE TO THE ROMANS—2 records—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

THE FIRST AND SECOND EPISTLES OF PAUL THE APOSTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS—3 records—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

THE EPISTLE OF PAUL THE APOSTLE TO THE GALATIANS—1 record—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

THE EPISTLE OF PAUL THE APOSTLE TO THE EPHESIANS—1 record—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

THE EPISTLES OF PAUL THE APOSTLE TO THE PHILIPPIANS AND TO THE COLOSSIANS—1 record—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

(in one container)

THE FIRST AND SECOND EPISTLES OF PAUL THE APOSTLE TO THE THESSALONIANS—1 record—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

THE FIRST AND SECOND EPISTLES OF PAUL THE APOSTLE TO TIMOTHY—1 record—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

THE EPISTLES OF PAUL TO TITUS, TO PHILEMON, AND TO THE HEBREWS—2 records—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

THE GENERAL EPISTLE OF JAMES—1 record—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

THE FIRST AND SECOND EPISTLES GENERAL OF PETER—1 record—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

THE FIRST, SECOND, AND THIRD EPISTLES OF JOHN AND THE EPISTLE OF JUDE—1 record—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

THE REVELATION OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE—3 records—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

(in one container)

SOCIAL SCIENCES

Mowbray, Albert H.—INSURANCE: Its Theory and Practice in the United States *(McGraw-Hill, 1946)*—48 records—read by Milton Metz APH

Contents: Risk, Its Nature and Economic Significance; Types of Hazards and the Law of Large Numbers; The Fundamentals of Insurance Contracts; The Fire Insurance Contract; the Marine Insurance Contract; Burglary, Robbery and Theft Insurance Contracts; Other Property Insurance Contracts; Life Insurance and Annuity Contracts; Disability Insurance Contracts; Liability Insurance Contracts; The Workmen's Compensation Insurance Contracts; Surety Bonds; Automobile Insurance; Types of Insurance Carriers; Self Insurance State Funds.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE—FRENCH

Note: *Titles marked with an asterisk are available also as Talking Books in English.*

*Balzac, Honoré de—EUGÉNIE GRANDET—15 records—read by Robert Franc AFB

Published in 1833, this is one of the "Scenes of Provincial Life" from Balzac's monumental *Human Comedy*. As a study of a good woman victimized it presents an interesting comparison with Henry James' *Washington Square*.

*Daudet, Alphonse—TARTARIN DE TARASCON—7 records—read by Jacques Daney AFB

A delightful lampoon, not only of the French Southerner, an exuberant good fellow, teller of tall tales, who sometimes lets the mirages of his imagination get the better of him, but also of all men who feed on words, dreams and illusions.

Dumas, Alexandre—LA TULIPE NOIRE—16 records—read by Robert Franc AFB

A romance (1895) dealing with 17th century Dutch history, especially the famous Haarlem tulip craze.

*Dumas, Alexandre—Les Trois Mousquetaires—50 records —read by Robert Franc AFB

Dumas' most famous historical romance (1844), recounting the adventures of the incomparable D'Artagnan and his three friends, Athos, Porthos and Aramis.

Flaubert, Gustave—Un Coeur Simple (A Simple Heart)—6 records—read in French and English by Robert Franc and Alexander Scourby AFB

This beautiful story by Flaubert is presented in a form designed to be of use to French students. On the odd sides of the records, Robert Franc reads the French original, on the even sides Alexander Scourby reads the English translation.

Flaubert, Gustave—Madame Bovary—27 records—read by Robert Franc AFB

This novel exerted a great influence as one of the first novels of the realistic school and is considered one of the masterpieces of 19th-century literature.

Grey Owl—Un Homme et des Betes—18 records—read by Robert Franc AFB

The author learned his forest lore from the Ojibways with whom he was reared. He turned from trapping to the preservation of game—especially of the beaver. This is an account of his life in the Canadian wilderness, and his work in behalf of the forest and its inhabitants. The book was originally published in English under the title *Pilgrims of the Wild.*

La Fayette, Mme. de—La Princesse de Clèves—12 records —read by Robert Franc AFB

First published in 1678, the historical importance of this story lies in the fact that it is a brilliant forerunner of the psychological novel.

Mérimée, Prosper—Carmen—5 records—read by Robert Franc AFB

This novelette (1847) served as the basis for Bizet's familiar opera.

PETITE ANTHOLOGIE DE LA POÉSIE FRANCAISE—10 records—read by Robert Franc AFB

An anthology of French verse from *La Chanson de Roland* (11th century) to Baudelaire (19th century).

Prévost, l'Abbé—MANON LESCAUT—13 records—read by Robert Franc AFB

This story is a masterpiece of pathos and has enjoyed remarkable longevity both as a novel and as a well-known opera.

*Saint Exupéry, Antoine de—TERRE DES HOMMES—10 records—read by Robert Franc AFB

Experiences of the great French flier, available in English as *Wind, Sand and Stars.*

*Voltaire, François Marie Arouet de—CANDIDE—7 records—read by Jean Denéveure AFB

Voltaire's philosophical novel (1759) written to satirize the optimistic creed that "All is for the best in this best of all possible worlds."

KATE McCOMB

by CHARLES A. SILLIMAN

Abridged from the BVA Bulletin

Kate McComb was saying in her apartment in the Hotel Blackstone:

"But here I am talking so much and I really don't know what you want to ask me. Perhaps if I just talk along about myself you can get the information you need." She looked sideways at a pillow on the divan and patted it. "I've had a wonderful life," she said. "I was a singer once and I directed church choirs and choral and theatre clubs and at the same time took care of my husband and brought up my son.

"Why, I didn't really start my professional life until I was 40 and I actually didn't have any experience. But I wasn't going to sit around. Oh, I had a few friends in the theatre, knew a few people, you know, but no real pull. I did it all myself. The first

agent I went to, told me he knew I could do the part I was after, but he said: 'Any agent you go to will ask what you have done and what are you going to tell them?' Well, I didn't know.

"So I went home, and sat around for a week thinking how impossible it was; then suddenly I got mad at myself for giving up so easily. I went over to see my son and asked him if he had any feeling about my working. You know, perhaps he thought: 'I wish mother wouldn't try this.'

"He said the only thing he minded was if I shouldn't make a success of it; he thought I might get too discouraged. So when I told him I wouldn't let it bother me, he said: 'Well, go to it, mother, and I know you'll make a success.' Those were his exact words.

"My first professional job was directing the musical score in 'Polly,' then I got a small part in 'Juno and the Paycock' on Broadway. That was the real beginning of my career. I've been acting ever since."

Mrs. McComb is especially good at imitating Irish and New England dialects and has done very well in character and comedy parts. She went into radio in 1930 and has played on such programs as: *Heart of Julia Blake, Cavalcade, the Kate Smith Program, Big Town, March of Time, The Goldbergs, Snow Village Sketches, The O'Neills,* and so forth.

"I've always been a perfectionist," she said. "Everything I've ever done has been worked over until I've got it down to almost a science. That's the way I prepare my book assignments. I go over it page by page as though I were studying a part for a play, then it sort of comes alive." She got up and showed me one of her books. It was all marked up with character names and convenient places to end a record and all sorts of other marks and symbols.

Mrs. McComb was born in Sacramento, California, and moved to New York at the age of seven. She was married at an early age and had one son. Her birthday is on November 25th.

She says the acting profession is a fascinating one and she wouldn't think of ever doing anything else. She values very highly the association of her actor friends, saying that she "honestly thinks that as a group stage people are the kindest and most generous people in the world," and she wants to go on working with them as long as she is able.

CHECK THE TITLES YOU WISH TO BORROW, DETACH THE LIST AND MAIL IT TO YOUR TALKING BOOK LIBRARY—**NOT TO THE FOUNDATION.**

FOR ADDITIONAL TITLES CONSULT YOUR CATALOGUE OF TALKING BOOKS FOR THE BLIND 1934-1948

Compiled by Division for the Blind
Library of Congress

- ☐ Aldrich—A White Bird Flying—16 r. APH
- ☐ Balzac—Eugenie Grandet (French)—15 r. AFB
- ☐ Bentley—Life Story—28 r. NIB
- ☐ The Holy Bible—Acts to Colossians—13 r. AFB
- ☐ The Holy Bible—I Thessalonians to Revelation—10 r. AFB
- ☐ Blake—Johnny Christmas—19 r. AFB
- ☐ Blake—Minute for Murder—20 r. NIB
- ☐ Blankfort—The Big Yankee—25 r. APH
- ☐ Calkins—"And Hearing Not—"—25 r. APH
- ☐ Cather—The Song of the Lark—28 r. AFB
- ☐ Chesterton—The Wisdom of Father Brown—16 r. NIB
- ☐ Cobb—Judge Priest Turns Detective—15 r. APH
- ☐ Chapman—Fishing in Troubled Waters—15 r. APH
- ☐ Crockett—Popcorn on the Ginza—15 r. APH
- ☐ Daudet—Tartarin de Tarascon (French)—7 r. AFB
- ☐ Davis—Beulah Land—19 r. APH
- ☐ De la Roche—Mary Wakefield—18 r. APH
- ☐ Den Doolaard—Roll Back the Sea—36 r. AFB
- ☐ Dumas—La Tulipe Noire (French)—16 r. AFB
- ☐ Dumas—Les Trois Mousquetaires (French)—16 r. AFB
- ☐ Eisenhower—Crusade in Europe—43 r. AFB
- ☐ Eliot—Middlemarch—62 r. NIB
- ☐ Glaubert—Un Coeur Simple (A Simple Heart) (French & English)—6 r. AFB
- ☐ Flaubert—Madame Bovary (French)—27 r. AFB
- ☐ Grey Owl—Un Homme et des Betes (French)—18 r. AFB
- ☐ Hagedorn—Prophet in the Wilderness—11 r. APH
- ☐ Hewlett—The Life and Death of Richard Yea-and-Nay—20 r. APH
- ☐ Hitrec—Son of the Moon—35 r. AFB
- ☐ Ives—Wayfaring Stranger—12 r. APH
- ☐ Jones—Mahatma Gandhi—13 r. APH
- ☐ Kelland—Merchant of Valor—16 r. APH
- ☐ Kipling—The Jungle Books—27 r. AFB
- ☐ La Fayette—La Princesse de Cleves (French)—12 r. AFB
- ☐ Laing—The Sea Witch—34 r. APH
- ☐ Lamb—Genghis Khan—11 r. APH
- ☐ Mann—Ant Hill Odyssey—20 r. APH
- ☐ Marquand—Point of No Return—34 r. APH

(SEE REVERSE SIDE)

Miss H. Lende

- ☐ Mérimée—Carmen (French)—5 r. AFB
- ☐ Moore—The Fire Balloon—23 r. APH
- ☐ Mowbray—Insurance: Its Theory and Practice in the U. S.—48 r. APH
- ☐ Muntz—The Golden Warrior—29 r. AFB
- ☐ Norris—Certain People of Importance—36 r. APH
- ☐ Oursler—The Greatest Story Ever Told—26 r. AFB
- ☐ Petite Anthologie de la Poesie Francaise (French)—10 r. AFB
- ☐ Prescott—The Conquest of Mexico—23 r. APH
- ☐ Pretorius—Jungle Man—14 r. APH
- ☐ Prévost—Manon Lescaut (French)—13 r. AFB
- ☐ Roberts—Northwest Passage: Book II—25 r. AFB
- ☐ Robinson—The Cardinal—41 r. AFB
- ☐ Saint Exupéry—Terre des Hommes (Fren —10 r. AFB
- ☐ Stevenson—Kidnapped—16 r. NIB
- ☐ Taber—The Book of Stillmeadow—13 APH
- ☐ Teale—The Lost Woods—15 r. APH
- ☐ Villiers—The Set of the Sails—18 r. AI
- ☐ Voltaire—Candide (French)—7 r. AFB
- ☐ Wellman—The Chain—29 r. APH
- ☐ White—A Man Called White—27 r. AFI
- ☐ Young—Miss Mole—18 r. NIB
- ☐ Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine—Ap May, June, 1950 APH
- ☐ Reader's Digest—April, May, June, 1950 AI
- ☐ Talking Book Topics—March, June, 19 AFB

Dear Librarian: I would like to borrow the titles checked on this list:

READER'S NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE POSTAL UNIT NO.

(SEE REVERSE SIDE)

TALKING BOOK TOPICS

VOL. XVI, NO. 2 SEPTEMBER, 1950

Issued Quarterly by the

AMERICAN FOUNDATION *for the* BLIND, Inc.

15 WEST 16th STREET • NEW YORK 11, N. Y.

Entered as second-class matter June 11, 1936, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of August 24, 1912.

Talking Book Topics

VOL. XVI, NO. 2 SEPTEMBER, 1950

The American Foundation for the Blind is a national agency the purpose of which is to promote increasingly and uncompromisingly the interests of all the blind throughout the United States, in close cooperation with all local organizations.

TALKING BOOK TOPICS is issued by the Foundation in inkprint, and in Talking Book form, four times a year—in March, June, September, and December. A printed copy is sent to all readers, free of charge, to aid you in requesting titles from your regular distributing library. There is a subscription price of $1 a year for the recorded edition.

If you can afford the yearly subscription price of $1 in order to receive the magazine in recorded form, please tear out the coupon in this issue, have it filled in, and mail it to the Talking Book Department of the American Foundation for the Blind, 15 West 16th Street, New York 11, New York, accompanied by your remittance.

Enclosed find the sum of $1.00 to cover one year's subscription for the recorded edition of TALKING BOOK TOPICS. Please send this magazine to:

SUBSCRIBER'S NAME .....

STREET ADDRESS .....

CITY .....

POSTAL UNIT NO. .....

STATE .....

A LIBRARIAN SPEAKS

by Juanita Howell
Talking Book Assistant, Library for the Blind, N. Y. Public Library

When the Talking Book made its first appearance, in August, 1934, I was an assistant in one of the uptown branches of the New York Public Library. It was an item of interest, but at the time I had no idea that it would ever occupy my thoughts, my working hours, and even my sleeping hours.

I have always been extremely fortunate in working under the finest librarians in the Circulation Department; in cataloguing, picture collection, children's work, reference and school work, and the adult department; but after six years in the Library for the Blind, I could not be satisfied in one of the other branches again, as this contains all the phases of library work with something added.

Although the problems in each of the twenty-seven distributing libraries of the Library of Congress Division for the Blind must be different because of size and locality, there are, of necessity, many things in common, ways in which you, the reader, can help us, your librarians, in giving you the best kind of library service. In order that you have a clearer picture of the Talking Book Department, here are a few pertinent and interesting historical facts.

At the end of the first fifteen months, December 1936, seventy-four titles had been recorded by the American Foundation for the Blind and were being circulated to 476 readers in our Federal district (New Jersey was a part of the district at that time) with a circulation of 6,071.

Ten years later, 1433 readers had a total of 827 titles to choose from. The book stock had grown to 7,670 and that year the circulation was 32,957. In the meantime New Jersey readers had been transferred to Philadelphia. At the beginning of 1950, six hundred more people were actively using their Talking Books,

and the book stock had grown to 15,386, with 1483 titles in English, 20 titles in French, 7 in Spanish, and (purchased from our own funds) 75 juvenile titles. The circulation had increased to 51,423 for the year of 1949. A monthly circulation was nearly the size of the first year's circulation of Talking Books.

Since this circulation entails many hours of clerical labor to try to keep our readers supplied with books, there are many ways in which you can help us, particularly if you understand the situation with which we are confronted.

We in New York City are a branch of the New York Public Library in the Circulation Department. We do not have our own building. The branch was originally housed in the central building at Fifth Avenue and Forty-second Street, but it soon outgrew its quarters there and the books were sent to the West 40th Street Branch of the library, the office remaining at the central building. When the Reference Department opened its annex on 25th Street, it offered the 7th and part of the 8th floors to the Library for the Blind.

It must have been a wonderful feeling to have all the books and the office in one place, but with the advent of Talking Books the spacious quarters were soon crowded. It is now not only crowded; there is barely space to move. Each new shipment of books received becomes a serious shelfroom problem. The number of readers has also increased, which means that larger numbers of containers come in and go out each day.

During the war years Talking Book machines were difficult to obtain; those which had been in use for a number of years were either worn out or wearing out; new parts were practically impossible to secure. Needles were one of our most serious problems. A semi-permanent needle was being perfected, but while this was being accomplished, the supply of steel needles became exhausted. Evidently any kind of commercial needle was used on some of the books, because many of the records have been seriously damaged, making them noisy and scratchy,

causing repeats, and in other ways spoiling the records. This cannot be detected from looking at them, even if we had the time to take each record out of its folder and examine it. We know there are many books in circulation that should be discarded, and you can help by notifying us of this.

Also, during the war years the Library of Congress, each one of the distributing libraries, as well as the American Foundation for the Blind and the American Printing House for the Blind, were handicapped by lack of staff, lack of supplies, and an increased need for more books. The number of new titles was greatly reduced, the number of copies of those few titles was often cut to one, and we never received more than five. (We have never been able to supply some of the requests for certain titles because of broken records that have not been replaced.)

Our readers have sometimes either phoned or written us letters apologetically telling us something was wrong with a book. We are delighted to have this help, only asking that it be specific in order that we may take care of it properly. Please give the author, title, page number, and exactly what is wrong with the book; attach it to the first record when you return the container, or write us a letter giving the same information, so we can catch it before the book is sent to another reader.

Although we have clerks who collate the incoming mail each morning, to put the pages in their proper order, to make sure the correct number of records are in each container and that they have their proper cover, we are understaffed and sometimes errors slip through. (One library I visited has had to discontinue collating its books each day, due to lack of staff.) Your returning the books in proper order helps us to cut down this extremely time-consuming part of our daily work.

The needle situation has improved greatly with the semi-permanent needle, but sometimes we are without needles between shipments. If you have one of the newer machines with a semi-permanent needle and do not need the package that is in

the container, leave it in when you return the book. Each one of these needles is to be used for four sides, two complete records. If your semi-permanent needle is wearing out, ask us for one that is suitable for your model of Talking Book machine.

Another way you can help us in keeping you supplied with books is to see that we always have a long list of titles from which to choose. In making out your list, do not duplicate a title if you have already asked for it, unless you wish to re-read it. The number of records, the publisher, date, classification and page number of the catalogue are not necessary. We keep each reader's list until it has been completely filled, then destroy it.

Although TALKING BOOK TOPICS always has a note asking you to check the list on the last page and send it to your distributing library—many readers send their lists to the Foundation. This means time is taken to reach the Foundation, more time for sorting the mail and sending it to the Talking Book Department where it has to be reassigned and sent to the proper library. There are a number of days' delay before we receive the list and a longer delay if there does not happen to be a copy of the desired title on the shelves.

Even though we are overcrowded, some of the other distributing libraries are working under even greater difficulties and cannot find space for more than one or two copies of each new title. The Chief of the Division for the Blind of the Library of Congress is aware of all these problems and is working out methods to solve them. A number of the very popular titles which were pressed in the earlier days of Talking Book distribution are being repressed and all the old worn copies discarded. This is also true of the NIB English records that played at 24 r.p.m. Only records that play at 33 1/3 are now being imported from England for circulation in this country.

The titles chosen for pressbrailled and Talking Books have to be those that will supply the greatest possible demand. Sug-

gestions can be sent directly to the Library of Congress or to your librarian, who will forward them to Washington. Periodically these titles are listed and sent to each of the twenty-seven librarians of the distributing libraries, as well as to a representative group of blind individuals, who are asked to check the lists and comment on the selections. These lists are then used as a basis by the Library of Congress in assigning titles to the AFB and APH for recording.

Publishing books, either in braille or on records, is costly unless the order is fairly sizable. For this reason not many books were published for college students. Since editions and texts become obsolete too quickly, some method which was faster than hand copying had to be found. The recording by volunteer readers on inexpensive vinylite discs and commercial recording machines is proving to be of inestimable value. It is still in the experimental stage and there are many problems to be solved; but those who have used the books are unanimous in their appreciation of the help they have been, enabling them to study by themselves and make A's and B's—thus usually leading their classes. All of this has been accomplished with volunteer help and volunteer contributions that have been used entirely for the work itself. This service is going to spread to all parts of the country within a short time, as the need for it is great, not only for students but also for others who want specific material recorded.

In conclusion, we do appreciate knowing you, we like to have you come to your library, we like to receive your letters, we like to talk to you over the phone. Please do not feel hurt or slighted if we have another call waiting for us on our much needed second telephone. We will always find time to help you with your selection if you will let us know that you need help.

NEW TALKING BOOKS

The following Talking Books, recorded for the Library of Congress, may now be borrowed from your regular distributing library.

AFB—*American Foundation for the Blind, New York.*

APH—*American Printing House for the Blind, Louisville, Kentucky.*

*NIB—*National Institute for the Blind, London, England.*

FICTION

Austin, Mary—STARRY ADVENTURE *(Houghton Mifflin, 1931)* —25 records—read by Livingston Gilbert APH

Colorful New Mexico is the background for this story of young Gard who dedicated his life to the starry adventure and found it in the country and the girl he loved. "The book transports one to the scene in which the story is laid; it offers the reader more of the real New Mexico than he could find in many months of travel under the aegis of the tourist companies."—Oliver La Farge, *Saturday Review of Literature.*

Bauer, Florence Marvyne—ABRAM, SON OF TERAH *(Bobbs-Merrill, 1948)*—34 records—read by James Baskerville APH

It was Abraham—or Abram—four thousand years ago, who first effectively established faith in one God and, by so doing, changed the course of human history. Here is this Abram as a boy and a young man in the great commercial city of Ur on the Euphrates, in a priest-ridden, crumbling empire, the youngest son in a large, complex household. Here is Abram somehow alien and alone in a life people around him accepted without question. Here are the forces that molded him.

---

* *All English Talking Books announced in recent issues of Talking Book Topics are recorded at 33⅓ revolutions per minute.*

Brace, Gerald Warner—A SUMMER'S TALE *(Norton, 1949)*—16 records—read by George Patterson APH

"Don't for a single instant take any part of Mr. Brace's story of the Maine Coast and its waters as a serious effort at anything, except to be very good entertainment for a summer's day. There are, for instance, no mysterious islands in the grim Atlantic to the east of Camden, Maine, which are shrouded by fog except in the month of August. Neither do the descendants of the Bourbon family of France nor the great-great-grandchildren of pirates live upon these islands. Nor are there any girls even in Casco Bay or off Bar Harbor as beautiful as the girls whom Mr. Brace's hero encounters in his summer cruise. Even Mr. Brace's liberals and Fascists have no particular ideological significance. There is fortunately nothing in *A Summer's Tale* that you can really get your teeth into, to use an unpleasant phrase popular among reviewers. If, however, phantasy does not disturb you; if you wish to be relaxed and amused, by all means, try this book. It has many of the qualities of Maine sunlight on the northern fir trees, and it sparkles like the ocean on a calm summer's day."—John P. Marquand, *Book-of-the-Month Club News.*

Disraeli, Benjamin—CONINGSBY—36 records—read by Richard Wessel NIB (33⅓ R.P.M.)

Coningsby, published in 1844, when Disraeli was thirty-nine years old, was his sixth and most successful novel. In three months it had gone through three editions, and 50,000 copies had been sold in England and the United States. It was a novel with a purpose: the author himself explained that his aim was to elevate the tone of public life, to ascertain the true character of political parties, and especially to vindicate the claims of the Tories. Incidentally he wished to emphasize the importance of the church in the development of England, and he tried to do some justice to the Jews. There are more than threescore characters in the book, and part of its popularity came from people's interest in identifying them with men and women prominent in English social and political life.

Ingles, James Wesley—A WOMAN OF SAMARIA *(Longmans, Green, 1949)*—13 records—read by Jan Tyroler APH

When, as a carefree girl, Photina enjoyed the admiring gaze of

men, she could not have imagined the ironical pattern of events through which her ill-fated beauty would lead her. She could not have known then that she would be married five times, or that one day she would hurt most cruelly the one she loved most deeply. Given her wish, she would have lived out her days with Manasseh, the romantic love of her youth. But he was taken from her, and she was forced into a brutal union with his lustful brother. Thus began the strange cycles of time that were to bring her one hot noon to the sacred well of Jacob and to an experience that was to change her whole way of life.

Irwin, Margaret—ELIZABETH, CAPTIVE PRINCESS *(Harcourt, Brace, 1948)*—19 records—read by Carmen Mathews AFB

"A sequel to *Young Bess (AFB, 1947)*, this short, strikingly vivid novel is concerned with Elizabeth of England in her nineteenth and twentieth year, when her brother Edward, the King, has just died, when Lady Jane is queen for a day, and when Mary, the stepsister, is queen for a long and gory period. It is a scholarly book, fictionized, it is true, but its facts selected with such careful research and discrimination that one is inclined to accept the interpretation without question. This is a very special historical novel—one of the best."—Bernardine Kielty, *Book-of-the-Month Club News.*

Marshall, Robert K.—LITTLE SQUIRE JIM *(Duell, Sloan & Pearce, 1949)*—15 records—read by Hugh Fellows AFB

"There is tang in this book, an authentic legendary quality, and ability to project personality to an unusual degree. Set in the North Carolina mountains, among a homespun, sturdy, foot-washing Baptist community, it centers about a young boy who grows to manhood during the course of the tale and dies before its end. The mountain folk about him are convincingly and vividly portrayed, with their general beliefs and prejudices, their hardness and their softness. *Little Squire Jim* sweeps the reader into its emotions."—Amy Loveman, *Book-of-the-Month Club News.*

Payne, Robert—TORRENTS OF SPRING *(Dodd, Mead, 1946)*—15 records—read by Terry Hayes APH

This is the story of Shaofeng, Lifeng and Rose, which begins about

1908 in the Hall of the Splendid Cloud, situated on a mountain side in one of the remote provinces of China. Living among inaccessible gorges, this girl and her two brothers grow up into a world of myths and legends, but at the same time eagerly absorb the knowledge of the West, which comes to them in the books their father sends from the Embassy in Paris. On one of the high cliffs they build a small hut which later becomes one of the secret centers of the revolt against the Manchu Dynasty. They try to maintain contact with Dr. Sun Yat-sen until the moment when the house is surrounded and they flee for their lives—Lifeng into the mountains and the monastery, Rose to Chungking, and Shaofeng eventually into the hands of the executioners. The book ends with the cry: "Hurrah for the new Republic!"

Seymour, Beatrice Kean—FAMILY GROUP *(Heinemann, London, 1947)*—16 records—read by Franklin Engleman NIB (33⅓ R.P.M.)

A story of post-war readjustment in the family of an English author whose life is rather the more complicated by the presence of a secretary who never tells him anything about her personal life but who arouses his interest by her beauty and her competence.

Walker, Mildred—WINTER WHEAT *(Harcourt, Brace, 1944)*—19 records—read by Terry Hayes APH

"*Winter Wheat* is a novel of strength, dignity and charm. Its theme, the growth of a nourishing spiritual abundance in the mind of a sturdy girl, is artfully and appealingly related to scenes of seeding and harvesting on a Montana ranch."—James Gray.

COLLECTIONS

Capek, Karel—THREE NOVELS: Hordubal—Meteor—An Ordinary Life: Translated by M. and R. Weatherall *(A. A. Wyn, 1948)*—31 records—read by Norman Rose AFB

Karel Capek, the most prominent literary figure of Czechoslovakia in the period between the two wars, was born in 1890 and died on December 25, 1938. He achieved his most marked success as a playwright and is widely known as the author of *R.U.R.*, that drama

on "the mechanization of the proletariat" which gave us the word "robot." Capek, however, was more than a dramatist; he was a philosopher and poet, passionately interested in the problems of truth and justice. All his books—and especially his novels— demonstrate his preoccupation with, and his belief in, the ordinary man, as well as the variety and beauty of the exterior world. The present trilogy has been called one of the most successful attempts at a philosophical novel in any language.

Runyon, Damon—THE DAMON RUNYON OMNIBUS *(Sun Dial Press, 1944)*—36 records—read by Burt Blackwell APH

Three of Runyon's most successful novels in one volume: *Guys and Dolls (1932); Blue Plate Special (1934); Money From Home (1935).* "Damon Runyon may be considered the prose laureate of the semi-literate American. His stories, nearly always written in the present tense throughout, are a mine of slang colloquialisms, 'wise cracks,' and 'Americanese.' Explaining Runyon's plot-formula, J. C. Furnas wrote: 'Almost invariably the fundamental principle is the reasonably well worn device of making a hard-boiled enemy of society behave like St. Francis of Assisi, demonstrating for all and sundry that the softest hearts beat beneath the latest fashions in bullet-proof vests.' Runyon's style is fluently journalistic, and if he attains no other immortality, his books will some day be an invaluable source for the study of current American speech."—Kunitz & Haycraft, *Twentieth Century Authors.*

Canby, Henry Seidel *and* Robeson Bailey, *Eds.*—THE BOOK OF THE SHORT STORY *(Appleton-Century-Crofts, 1948)*—40 records—read by Kenneth Meeker APH

This collection presents twenty-seven great short stories, drawn from American and European literature, of both ancient and modern times. They range from approximately 2500 B.C. (the Egyptian tale of *The Shipwrecked Sailor*) to the past decade (Stephen Vincent Benét's *The Devil and Daniel Webster*). In tone, they encompass everything from the idyllic Old Testament *Book of Ruth* to the terse desperation of Ernest Hemingway's *The Killers.* The Introduction presents an illuminating history of the short story and its place in literature.

MYSTERY AND DETECTIVE

Stout, Rex—TROUBLE IN TRIPLICATE *(Viking, 1949)*—12 records—read by James Walton APH

Three shorter novels about Nero Wolfe and Archie Goodwin are here presented in a single volume. They are: *Before I Die,* featuring some sinister black-market operators and much gunplay; *Help Wanted, Male,* in which Nero hires a double to smoke out a killer; *Instead of Evidence,* the story of a man who lighted one trick cigar too many.

BIOGRAPHY

Fowler, Gene—BEAU JAMES: The Life and Times of Jimmy Walker *(Viking, 1949)*—28 records—read by Kermit Murdock AFB

"This is precisely the kind of biography Jimmy Walker would have wished to have written about himself: warm, sentimental, a little florid, full of good stories, completely unanalytic, and easily readable by any of the millions who loved the most picturesque mayor New York has ever had. To anyone who lived through and enjoyed that bad, sad, mad, glad period known as the '20's, Gene Fowler's lively and wistful chronicle will make a strong nostalgic appeal. Actually Jimmy Walker, in the perspective of recent history, is not an important figure. Hence *Beau James* cannot very well be an important book. But it has a warm quality that New Yorkers who love their city will particularly relish, and it has enough good ancedotes to fill ten biographies."—Clifton Fadiman, *Book-of-the-Month Club News.*

ESSAYS

Brown, John Mason—MORNING FACES: A Book of Children and Parents *(Whittlesey House, 1949)*—8 records—read by Lauren Gilbert AFB

John Mason Brown, who has written so lovingly in the field of the arts—whose books on the last war were classics of their kind—now turns to that most universal of battlegrounds—the raising of children. He writes of the poignant evanescence of youth—with all its love and all its upheavals. He tells of the many experiences which

a father and son owe it to one another to share in common, and how the son's discovery of life can often be the father's rediscovery of youth. He tells about fishing expeditions at Martha's Vineyard, the excitement of a trip west, of illnesses and dancing school and summer camp, and of the awful and expensive moment when your children first discover how to use the telephone. He describes how each swift, treasured year of their growing up somehow manages to be more rewarding than the one that preceded it until that moment when water pistols and beanshooters must be left behind for good, and the departure for school lowers the final curtain of childhood.

Gannett, Lewis—CREAM HILL: Discoveries of a Weekend Countryman *(Viking, 1949)*—12 records—read by John Knight AFB

"To a casual leafer through of pages, this book might seem to be only the country observations of one of the best, and one of the best known, of American critics and reviewers. But it is far more than that. It is a penetrating and humorously documented account of a tract of tumbled hills and bushy pastures in upper Connecticut, more beautiful if less historic than Thoreau's Concord. The subject here is the weekend escapes of the Gannett family to an old house on a deserted hilltop farm. It is a little book which is what Henry James would have called 'dense,' by which he meant the reverse of dull. It is an unpretentious chronicle; and so have been many other books that have outlasted self-confessed 'masterpieces,' and great tanks of words that crush the reader's interest."—Henry Seidel Canby, *Book-of-the-Month Club News.*

HISTORY

Fergusson, Erna—DANCING GODS: Indian Ceremonials of New Mexico and Arizona *(Knopf, 1931)*—14 records—read by Jean Clos APH

A popular account of the principle Indian dances of New Mexico and Arizona, based upon all available sources and also upon a first-hand knowledge of them, this book covers the ceremonies of Pueblo, Navajo, and Apache Indians. It includes all the well-known dances,

like the Corn Dances, the Snake Dance, the Fire Dance, and many less-known but equally important ones. The author was born in the Southwest and, as a dude-wrangler, spent several years conducting parties to the Indian reservations and villages to see the dances and thus learned what people wish to know. She is convinced that Indian dances are not the yellings and cavortings of savages, but a definite art form, worthy of serious consideration and intelligent study.

NATURAL SCIENCE

Glesinger, Egon—The Coming Age of Wood *(Simon & Schuster, 1949)*—15 records—read by Paul Clark APH

"The statement in this book as to the value of wood to humanity is clear, sober, factual, backed up with statistical and scientific proof. But it reads like a wild Jules Verne fantasy. Is it possible, we ask ourselves as we read, that all around us, everywhere, we have the potential stuff of life, available now as never before, because of what science has learned about chemistry and physics? Dreams of the medieval alchemists about transmuting other metals to gold? Nothing to what could be done, is already being done, in the way of transmuting wood-fibres into—well, into almost any of the vital necessities of life for human beings. *The Coming Age of Wood* is a book of great importance, which should be read, studied, and examined from every angle, and explored from every avenue of approach and in all its possibilities by all thoughtful people, who can look beyond the end of their own noses into the future."—Dorothy Canfield, *Book-of-the-Month Club News.*

Stuart, Frank S.—City of the Bees *(Whittlesey House, 1949)*—13 records—read by Paul Clark APH

The marvels of a society older than man, and almost unknown to him, are revealed in this story of a colony of wild bees and one year in its life. It is the story of birth and death, tragedy and joy, victory and defeat, prodigious labor, and pure enjoyment of life which transcends human experience. With keen observation and with a thorough, reverent regard for his subject, Mr. Stuart combines almost unbelievable facts with poetic imagination.

PHILOSOPHY

Dewey, John—Reconstruction in Philosophy *(Beacon Press, 1920)*—12 records—read by Paul Clark APH

Before World War I there was a generally prevailing optimism; men believed widely "in continued progress towards mutual understanding among peoples and classes, and hence a sure movement to harmony and peace." This attitude was shaken to its core by the war, which shocked it nearly out of existence. It was in answer to the resulting confusion that John Dewey, one of the deans of American philosophy, wrote, in 1920, his famous *Reconstruction in Philosophy,* which has now been out of print for many years. "Today," says Professor Dewey, "The shock is almost incredibly greater. Insecurity and strife are so general that the prevailing attitude is one of anxious and pessimistic uncertainty. Uncertainty as to what the future has in store casts its heavy and black shadow over all aspects of the present." Therefore, Professor Dewey was glad to see a reissue of his book and to write a new introduction for it—an introduction "written in the firm belief that the events of the intervening years have created a situation in which the need for reconstruction is vastly more urgent than when the book was composed."

PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED

Russell, Harold *with* Victor Rosen—Victory in My Hands *(Creative Age Press, 1949)*—14 records—read by William Gladden APH

Sergeant Harold Russell awoke in a hospital ward. His hands—both his hands—were gone. And he knew that life, for him, was ended. But from the hell of his hospital bed he started the long, uphill climb to spiritual rehabilitation. Today he's a father, happily married to the girl he was afraid to face. He drives a car, plays the piano, uses a typewriter, golfs, shoots—and does things that people with two hands can't do. And he devotes his life to travelling and lecturing—helping others win out against defeat.

Chevigny, Hector *and* Sydell Braverman—THE ADJUSTMENT OF THE BLIND *(Yale University Press, 1950)*—17 records—read by Hector Chevigny and Kermit Murdock AFB

In this forthright book two capable authorities assess the problem of how a human being must adjust physically, mentally, and emotionally to loss of sight and to the reception he can expect from society. They point to the fact that although modern mechanics, through inventions ranging from the typewriter to the telephone, should have revolutionized life for the modern blind, society's attitude still keeps them, through an emotional barrier against their employment, in virtually a primitive state of ostracism and discrimination. They delve deep into the history of the blind in an effort to find the roots for society's feelings, and they investigate also the psychological reactions of the blind to society's attitudes. They look, for example at such questions as why deafness may be regarded as funny whereas blindness never is. They question why society puts the blind in a situation which gives them a feeling of both security and of frustration at the same time. Hector Chevigny, author of *My Eyes Have a Cold Nose (APH, 1947)* and Sydell Braverman, a clinical psychologist, have examined the whole problem of the blind in the light of psychological knowledge and modern techniques, and they call for a similar re-examination on the part of the public, employers, and those responsible for the care and treatment of the sightless.

Dahl, Borghild—I WANTED TO SEE—Foreword by Dr. William L. Benedict, Mayo Clinic *(Macmillan, 1944)*—11 records—read by Terry Hayes APH

Borghild Dahl was born fifty-three years ago in Minneapolis of Norwegian parents. She graduated from the public schools there and received her A.B. from the University of Minnesota. She was awarded a Master's Degree by Columbia University. She started teaching in the tiny Minnesota village of Twin Valley, advancing in her profession until she was Professor of Journalism and Literature at Augustana College in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Books have always been her passion, and throughout her years of teaching she frequently lectured, reviewed, or gave talks over the radio about books and authors. This book is an account of how she lived a full and interesting life in spite of the fact that she had only 4/60

vision in her good eye. Every effort all her life was bent toward hiding the fact that she was, for all practical purposes, blind. She refused to be "different."

POLITICAL SCIENCE

Schlesinger, Arthur M., Jr.—THE VITAL CENTER: The Politics of Freedom *(Houghton Mifflin, 1949)*—18 records—read by Eugene O'Neill, Jr. AFB

"These essays are an affirmation of faith by one member of a group widely suspected of not having any, that is, the 'non-communist left' in America and Western Europe. Mr. Schlesinger describes its recovery through the 'New Deal' and the disappointment with the Soviet Utopia. He states his confidence in the western type of democracy, based on collaboration between the genuine conservative who is not a reactionary fascist and the liberal who is not a muddled fellow-traveler. Reactionaries and fake liberals have met on the common ground of dictatorship and terror, and both have failed; simple plutocracy has also shown its inability to govern. This argument is illustrated by a dramatic contrast between the failure of Chamberlain, the business 'leader,' and the fortitude of Churchill, a cultured military aristocrat with a sense of history and social responsibility, when both were confronted by Hitler."—*U.S. Quarterly Book List.*

CHECK THE TITLES YOU WISH TO BORROW, DETACH THE LIST AND MAIL IT TO YOUR TALKING BOOK LIBRARY—**NOT TO THE FOUNDATION.**

FOR ADDITIONAL TITLES CONSULT YOUR CATALOGUE OF TALKING BOOKS FOR THE BLIND 1934-1948

Compiled by Division for the Blind
Library of Congress

- ☐ Austin—Starry Adventure—25 r. APH
- ☐ Bauer—Abram, Son of Terah—34 r. APH
- ☐ Brace—A Summer's Tale—16r. APH
- ☐ Brown—Morning Faces—8r. AFB
- ☐ Canby—The Book of the Short Story—40 r. APH
- ☐ Capek—Three Novels—31 r. AFB
- ☐ Chevigny—The Adjustment of the Blind—17 r. AFB
- ☐ Dahl—I Wanted to See—11 r. APH
- ☐ Dewey—Reconstruction in Philosophy—12 r. APH
- ☐ Disraeli—Coningsby—36 r. NIB
- ☐ Fergusson—Dancing Gods—14 r. APH
- ☐ Fowler—Beau James—28 r. AFB
- ☐ Gannett—Cream Hill—12 r. AFB
- ☐ Glesinger—The Coming Age of Wood—15 r. APH
- ☐ Ingles—A Woman of Samaria—13 r. APH
- ☐ Irwin—Elizabeth, Captive Princess—19 r. AFB
- ☐ Marshall—Little Squire Jim—15 r. AFB
- ☐ Payne—Torrents of Spring—15 r. APH
- ☐ Runyon—The Damon Runyon Omnibus—36 r. APH
- ☐ Russell—Victory in My Hands—14 r. APH
- ☐ Schlesinger—The Vital Center—18 r. AFB
- ☐ Seymour—Family Group—16 r. NIB
- ☐ Stout—Trouble in Triplicate—12 r. APH
- ☐ Stuart—City of the Bees—13 r. APH
- ☐ Walker—Winter Wheat—19 r. APH
- ☐ Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine—July, August, September, 1950 APH
- ☐ Reader's Digest—July, August, September, 1950 APH
- ☐ Talking Book Topics—March, June, September, 1950 AFB

(SEE REVERSE SIDE)

Dear Librarian: I would like to borrow the titles checked on this list:

READER'S NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE POSTAL UNIT NO.

(SEE REVERSE SIDE)

Talking Book Topics

DECEMBER—1950

VOL. XVI *Issued Quarterly by the* NO. 3

AMERICAN FOUNDATION *for the* BLIND, Inc.
15 WEST 16th STREET • NEW YORK 11, N. Y.

Entered as second-class matter June 11, 1936, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of August 24, 1912.

Talking Book Topics

VOL. XVI, NO. 3 DECEMBER, 1950

The American Foundation for the Blind is a national agency the purpose of which is to promote increasingly and uncompromisingly the interests of all the blind throughout the United States, in close cooperation with all local organizations.

TALKING BOOK TOPICS is issued by the Foundation in inkprint, and in Talking Book form, four times a year—in March, June, September, and December. A printed copy is sent to all readers, free of charge, to aid you in requesting titles from your regular distributing library. There is a subscription price of $1 a year for the recorded edition.

If you can afford the yearly subscription price of $1 in order to receive the magazine in recorded form, please tear out the coupon in this issue, have it filled in, and mail it to the Talking Book Department of the American Foundation for the Blind, 15 West 16th Street, New York 11, New York, accompanied by your remittance.

Enclosed find the sum of $1.00 to cover one year's subscription for the recorded edition of TALKING BOOK TOPICS. Please send this magazine to:

SUBSCRIBER'S NAME _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

POSTAL UNIT NO. _____

STATE _____

NEW TALKING BOOKS

The following Talking Books, recently recorded for the Library of Congress, may now be borrowed from your regular distributing library.

AFB—*American Foundation for the Blind, New York, N. Y.*
APH—*American Printing House for the Blind, Louisville, Ky.*
*NIB—*National Institute for the Blind, London, England.*

FICTION

Baum, Vicki—NANKING ROAD—translated by Basil Creighton *(Doubleday, 1939)*—53 records—read by Richard Wessel NIB

"Using an almost overwhelming profusion of detail, the author relates the separate personal histories of a dozen people—Chinese, Japanese, American, and English—whose involved affairs took in degeneracy, exile, unhappy marriage, espionage, and racial conflict. The group met in Shanghai in the summer of 1937, and fate led them to a great hotel just in time for a bombing which ended all their lives. Very long, with sordid episodes."—*A.L.A. Booklist.*

Bonnet, Theodore—THE MUDLARK *(Doubleday, 1949)*—21 records—read by John Brewster AFB

"This sparkling novel turns on a footnote of history. Actually there was a real boy—a London mudlark—who did get into Windsor Castle. Indignation was roused over all England, newspapers talked of regicides and Fenian plots, and the reverberations—politically and socially—changed the course of Victoria's reign. Out of this tidbit Theodore Bonnet has conceived a delightful story and a masterly projection of the times. The climax is magnificent—the final speech of Benjamin Disraeli before Parliament, with the Mudlark as its theme. What happened to Wheeler—and for that matter, how he got into the Queen's presence in the first place—you'll have to read the book to discover."—Bernardine Kielty, *Book-of-the-Month Club News.*

---

* *All NIB Talking Books announced in this issue of Topics are recorded at 33⅓ r.p.m*

Bromfield, Louis—POSSESSION *(Stokes, 1925)*—33 records—read by John Knight AFB

A sequel to the author's *The Green Bay Tree (AFB, 1949)*, this novel tells the story of Ellen Tolliver's escape from a Middle West mill town to New York, to Paris, and to the world in general as a pianist of international fame.

Dostoevsky, Fyodor—THE HOUSE OF THE DEAD—26 records—read by Joseph Macleod NIB

First published in 1861, this book was written shortly after the author's return from his four years' Siberian exile and provides a rich record of the life of a Russian convict in a Siberian prison in the middle of the nineteenth century. Its detail is remarkable and is described with the unfaltering realism of a novelist famous for his qualities of observation, and with psychological asides which make the work memorable. Despite the horrors of the prison life and its terrible victims, Dostoevsky found something human about them, and the book's ultimate message is one of faith in human nature under the most degraded circumstances.

Eggleston, Edward—THE HOOSIER SCHOOL-MASTER: A Story of Backwoods Life in Indiana—12 records—read by Bucky Kozlow AFB

"Edward Eggleston's novels are very uneven, with little plot, but they are invaluable as records of a swiftly changing locale and its inhabitants. Indiana in his boyhood was a frontier; by the time he started to write about it, it was a settled, civilized community. Eggleston's gift for languages stood him in good stead in catching the dialect of the Scotch-Irish pioneers who were the original 'Hoosiers,' and he portrayed their *mores* with a candid conviction which bears the stamp of accuracy. His style was concise and clear, if undistinguished, and the earlier books are unmarred by the self-conscious 'literary' touch which appears in the later ones. Carl Van Doren called him 'the earliest American realist whose work is still remembered.' "—Kunitz & Haycraft, *American Authors, 1600-1900.*

Guthrie, A. B., Jr.—THE WAY WEST *(William Sloane Associates, 1949)*—20 records—read by Burt Blackwell APH

A hundred-odd men, women, and children gathered at the rendezvous a few miles outside of Independence. They were solid, established folk, most of them, and they were leaving behind prosperous farms and businesses because they shared a dream about the rich lands in the West, where a man, his wife, and their young ones might make a better life and a new world more desirable than any Americans before them had ever known. Mr. Guthrie has told the story of the "On-to-Oregon" train and the people in it in a book which Clifton Fadiman calls "the finest novel on the subject in existence."

Howe, George—CALL IT TREASON *(Viking, 1949)*—24 records —read by Lane Blackwell AFB

There were three motives that led German prisoners of war to volunteer for service behind their own lines as spies for the American Army—"riches and risk and faith." One of each was involved in the mission described in this book, in which three men were dropped by parachute across the Rhine ahead of our advancing forces. The author gives a fascinating and authentic account of the complicated technique of such a mission and a startling picture of what Germany was like just before the end.

McCrone, Guy—AUNT BEL *(Farrar, Straus, 1949)*—15 records —read by Livingston Gilbert APH

"Those of us who regarded ourselves as dimly distant cousins of the comfortable and honorable Scotch family whose rise was recorded in Guy McCrone's novel *Red Plush (APH, 1949)*, are out in the cold again. In the slight sequel to that story, a harmless excursion into manners of the upper middle classes of Glasgow in the 1890's, the family has attained such security and become involved in so many clannish vanities that most readers will be compelled to flee its stuffy bosom. The gatherings of the Moorhouse clans have now degenerated into gossipy and trifling parties to discuss various prospects of marriage. A conscientious sociological report on such a story would probably point out the evils of Vic-

torianism in family life. It may be, however, that the trouble with the relaxed Moorhouses lies in a simpler family institution—that of consuming toxic doses of tannic acid at innumerable tea parties, morning, noon, and night."—William Soskin, *Saturday Review of Literature.*

Mason, F. Van Wyck—CUTLASS EMPIRE *(Doubleday, 1949)*—33 records—read by James Baskerville APH

This novel begins with Henry Morgan's flight from Cromwell's England and his arrival as a castaway on the shores of a Caribbean island. It was here his hatred of the Spaniards was born when he saw Kate Pyne tortured and raped and his castaway companions murdered. Years later, as a great buccaneer captain, he was still exacting vengeance for those deeds, sweeping the western seas of Spanish ships and sacking Spanish towns.

Richter, Conrad—THE FREE MAN *(Grosset & Dunlap, 1943)*—6 records—read by Emmett Rogers APH

In this novel Mr. Richter has written of those early Americans who were among his own forebears—the sturdy, courageous, hard-working, liberty-loving Palatine Germans who with the Alsatians and Swiss came to farm in Pennsylvania and stayed to win their collective freedom on the battlefields of the Revolution. As a footnote to history it is freshly revealing of an important but unfamiliar aspect of our growth to nationhood and the part played in it by the founding fathers of the Pennsylvania Dutch, their "little Declaration of Independence" as early as April and May 1775, and their introduction and development of that great American influence, the pioneer rifle.

Shellabarger, Samuel—THE KING'S CAVALIER *(Little, Brown, 1949)*—29 records—read by James Baskerville APH

The author here tells the story of a young Frenchman and a young Englishwoman who were caught in the wild plots and counterplots surrounding the Bourbon conspiracy against Francis I. The year is 1523. Charles, Duke of Bourbon, Constable of France, in

league with Henry VIII of England and the Emperor Charles V, has launched a rebellion against the King. Francis, vital, brilliant, and pleasure-loving, is trying to gain possession of the Bourbon provinces, thus uniting the kingdom and eliminating the last of the French feudal states. Around this theme the author has created a whirlwind novel of romance and intrigue.

Trollope, Anthony—THE SMALL HOUSE AT ALLINGTON—48 records—read by Duncan Carse NIB

This novel was first published in 1864 and, though not in the Barsetshire series of novels as named by Trollope, it deals with some of the same characters.

Winslow, Anne Goodwin—IT WAS LIKE THIS *(Knopf, 1949)*—7 records—read by Terry Hayes APH

The scene of this story is southern Mississippi in the latter part of the nineteenth century. It concerns a mother, her two sons, and an adopted daughter: four people who love each other very much. A beautiful girl growing up in a close association with two young men who are not her brothers, the comparative remoteness of their plantation life, and their financial restrictions—these are the elements of an impassioned story exquisitely told.

COLLECTIONS

Aldrich, Bess Streeter—JOURNEY INTO CHRISTMAS, and Other Stories *(Appleton-Century-Crofts, 1949)*—10 records—read by Jan Tyroler APH

No modern popular writer has written about Christmas with more heartwarming enthusiasm than Bess Streeter Aldrich. Christmas, to her, means home. It is the time when families gather together in the spirit of joy and good will—and humility. It is the time when many catch for a moment the abiding significance of our most beloved holiday. Here, in one volume, have been collected Mrs. Aldrich's favorite Christmas stories.

Bleiler, Everett F. *and* T. E. Dikty, *Eds.*—THE BEST SCIENCE FICTION STORIES: 1949 *(Frederick Fell, 1949)*—18 records—read by Burt Blackwell APH

If you are a dyed-in-the-wool science-fiction fan, you will want to place this volume on your *must* list. But whether you are a banker or a clerk; a science student or a teacher; a reader for knowledge or for escape—in these thrill-providing and thought-provoking stories you will find entertainment to beguile many a pleasant hour. The introduction *Trends in Modern Science-Fiction* is an analysis of the subject that will appeal to the expert and the new science-fiction reader alike.

MYSTERY AND DETECTIVE

Stout, Rex—THE SECOND CONFESSION *(Viking, 1949)*—13 records—read by George Patterson APH

This new, full length whodunit not only gives Nero Wolfe full play for all his egocentricities but also provides Archie Goodwin with a satisfying number of opportunities to risk his neck, to fall into what he never calls love, and to be baffled simultaneously by an exceptionally well-concealed murderer and an infuriatingly non-committal Nero.

ADVENTURE AND TRAVEL

Marriott, Alice—THE VALLEY BELOW *(University of Oklahoma Press, 1949)*—15 records—read by Helen Harrelson AFB

This is a human and sympathetic account of the people in a predominantly Spanish-American and Indian neighborhood in New Mexico as seen by two Anglo-Americans who went there to make their home. To Round Valley, shortly after the war, came Alice Marriott, an ethnologist and writer, and her friend "Martha," an artist by vocation but an architect, plumber, and mechanic when necessity demanded. City-bred young women, they thought to pursue their respective professions quietly. But they hardly found quietness and solitude. Instead, they were swept into the daily, and in most cases unusual, activities of their friendly neighbors. And

Alice Marriott perceived that here was a community whose normal pattern of life constituted an amusing and interesting story.

Slocum, Joshua—SAILING ALONE AROUND THE WORLD—24 records—read by Alvar Lidell NIB

First published in 1899, this work has been compared to Dana's *Two Years Before the Mast (AFB, 1936)* and Brassey's *Around the World in the Yacht "Sunbeam."* The author, an old sea captain, after building his own ship in the yards at Fairhaven, set sail alone from Boston in 1895 on a remarkable voyage around the world that lasted for three years.

ANTHROPOLOGY

Reyher, Rebecca Hourwich—ZULU WOMAN *(Columbia University Press, 1948)*—19 records—read by Diane deBrett AFB

"By telling the story of one Zulu woman, Mrs. Reyher brings to life and significance the pulse and motivation of Zulu life as experienced by a participant in it. The protagonist is Christina, a Christian Zulu, brought up in poverty and in a humble station, but imbued with ideas and standards introduced by the missionaries. Having attracted the notice of Solomon K. A. Dinizulu, the king of her people, she finally consented, in spite of her Christian repugnance to polygamy, to become one of his wives. The story Mrs. Reyher has set down from her long conversations with Christina is the tragedy of a woman of character who finds herself in conflict with the traditions of her people and revolting against the violations of her personality shaped by other standards. Zulu life is seen mainly from Christina's point of view and from the intensity of her reaction to it, and the account produces a more vivid impression of its demands and operation than might be obtained from a more conventional anthropological treatise."—*U.S. Quarterly Book List.*

BIOGRAPHY

Allen, Frederick Lewis—THE GREAT PIERPONT MORGAN *(Harper, 1949)*—17 records—read by Eugene Earl AFB

"The word 'great' in the title of this book is justified. In every

aspect of his life Morgan dealt in magnitudes. He was unquestionably the greatest financier of the later nineteenth century; he was the greatest collector of objects of art since the millionaires of republican and imperial Rome; he was the outstanding maker of order in the lawless, almost anarchic, competition of industry that began in the United States after the Civil War. Mr. Allen, with his style and extraordinary capacity for registering significant detail, has written a biography that is neither an attack upon nor a defense of his controversial hero. He makes clear, and this is the social significance of this book, that Morgan's god was order, his hate waste, his own war against gamblers who were trying to loot America."—Henry Seidel Canby, *Book-of-the-Month Club News.*

Brittain, Fred.—ARTHUR QUILLER-COUCH *(Macmillan, 1947)* —13 records—read by Duncan Carse NIB

A biographical study of the well-known English man of letters. The author stresses the personal aspect rather than the formal, but sketches in something of the various sides of his career: the novelist; the poet; the journalist; the critic; the scholar; the patriot; and always the Cornishman.

Burke, Billie *with* Cameron Shipp—WITH A FEATHER ON MY NOSE *(Appleton-Century-Crofts, 1949)*—14 records—read by the Author and Norma Terris AFB

This is the life story of a beautiful redheaded actress who lived and played in a glittering era now gone but fondly remembered. Although she attained moments of great fame and happiness, she never knew security. Like her father, the clown, she went through life with a feather on her nose. The book is read by the author and by the original Magnolia of Flo Ziegfeld's *Show Boat.*

Carr, John Dickson—THE LIFE OF SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE *(Harper, 1949)*—26 records—read by Norman Shelley NIB

The first authorized biography of the man who created Sherlock Holmes, written by a noted Anglo-American detective story writer. "Based on Sir Arthur's private papers and written with the full co-

operation of the Doyle heirs, this supersedes previous books on Doyle."—*Library Journal.*

THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF G. K. CHESTERTON *(Sheed & Ward, 1936)*—22 records—read by George Patterson APH

"This autobiography of the regretted Gilbert Keith Chesterton is the story of almost every consequential Englishman of letters in our time except himself. Here is Hardy plain, and Shaw and Wells and Belloc and a host of others. Here the great and the near great of England's latter nineteenth and early twentieth century writers, and a platoon of celebrities in politics, publishing and plutocracy, are paraded before us by a sage observer."—*New York Herald-Tribune "Books."*

Croy, Homer—JESSE JAMES WAS MY NEIGHBOR *(Duell, Sloan & Pearce, 1949)*—13 records—read by Milton Metz APH

The author has this to say about his book: "Jesse James was betrayed the year before I was born, but his memory was everywhere about me. Frank James, a few jumps away from the Croy farm in Maryville, Missouri, lived until 1915; his widow until 1944. It seems to me I have always known the James Story. I've told it a hundred times, I suppose, to friends and in friendly gatherings. It always seems to hold attention, for it is an amazing story—Americana right out of the soil."

Freeman, Douglas Southall—GEORGE WASHINGTON: THE YOUNG WASHINGTON *(Scribner's, 1948)*—read by Walter Gerard APH

VOLUME I—34 records

VOLUME II—24 records

"It is hard to think of any contemporary writer better fitted by training or environment to write a biography of George Washington than Mr. Freeman, whose life of Lee and *Lee's Lieutenants* have already proven him an authority on the Virginia scene and on the mental processes of her sons. He is off to an excellent start and already proves that he is one of the few authorities on Washington

able to balance faults and virtues so that his subject emerges both as a sympathetic and comprehensible human being. At the end of these two volumes one has a feeling that one knows Washington very well indeed, not to mention his friends and family and the hard life of Colonial America."—John Marquand, *Book-of-the-Month Club News.*

Hall, Melvin—BIRD OF TIME *(Scribner's, 1949)*—19 records—read by Morris Flournoy APH

This new volume of memoirs by the author of *Journey to the End of An Era (AFB, 1947)* ranges the world just as freely and at a pace as unhurried. This book, however, has a home—a point of focus in central France to which it always makes a charmed return. From the hillside in Burgundy where Colonel Hall now lives, his memory goes out to the Orient and other spots in the world where he has lived and adventured. His final conclusion is that today's modernity has cost life some of its savor.

James, Marquis—THE CHEROKEE STRIP: An Oklahoma Boyhood *(Viking, 1945)*—19 records—read by Burt Blackwell APH

The scene is a section of the Indian lands that was opened to white settlement in 1893, and became a part of Oklahoma. The author's father had ridden in the famous Run to stake out his claim, and young Marquis grew up with the town of Enid in the strip. The classic adventure of being a boy in a small town is as American as Mark Twain. Particularly delightful are the stories of the old-time printers and of Marquis's own work as a reporter for the local papers. Mr. James's well-known skill at depicting the American scene is as evident here as in his Pulitzer Prize biographies, and it is hard to imagine anyone who will not enjoy reading the gently nostalgic story of his youth and of the young days of our Southwest.

Mauldin, Bill—A SORT OF A SAGA *(William Sloane Associates, 1949)*—12 records—read by Milton Metz APH

The mists of infancy first divide for the narrator to reveal him at the age of three, seated on the bank of a small and noisome Mexican

river, rapidly smoking a package of pilfered cigarettes. From this point the saga of an unorthodox childhood flows swiftly and uncompromisingly onward. There is a lot of scenery along the route. Dominating the entire production is the figure of Pop, whose "projects," as he liked to call them, included everything from tourist cabins and gold mines to the dynamiting of swamps and the rehabilitation of ancient engines. Mexico, New Mexico, and Arizona each furnished its quota of settings, and Pop's two sons, Bill and Sid, and his uncomplaining wife—the kind of woman to whom monuments should be erected—the supporting cast.

Pearson, Hesketh—DICKENS: His Character, Comedy & Career *(Harper, 1949)*—31 records—read by Kenneth Meeker APH

Dickens was a more astonishing person than all the characters he created put together, and the present biographer's object has been to show him as his friends saw him. His versatility, his vivacity, his love of life, his mimetic genius, his demonic energy and emotional intensity, his quarrels, his love-affairs, his brilliant comedy and inexhaustible curiosity, are here displayed; and one of the most extraordinary men in history is revealed "in his habit as he lived."

Peterson, Houston, *Ed.*—GREAT TEACHERS: Portrayed by Those Who Studied Under Them *(Rutgers University Press, 1946)*—23 records—read by William Gladden APH

In this unusual anthology a group of great teachers are brought back to life through the words of men and women who studied under them. Here is Anne Sullivan teaching Helen Keller the meaning of the word "love;" the headstrong and arrogant Woodrow Wilson, unable to forgive anyone who opposed his will; tender-hearted Lizzie Moore in her one-room schoolhouse, inspiring great lessons with her thumb-marked McGuffey Readers; Garman of Amherst, the man of mystery who rarely moved beyond the well-beaten path between his home and his classes. In all, twenty-one teachers are included.

Roosevelt, Eleanor—THIS I REMEMBER *(Harper, 1949)*—26 records—read by the Author and Carmen Mathews AFB

In writing this deeply revealing story of her life as the president's wife, Eleanor Roosevelt has done a difficult and courageous thing, and has done it with dignity, charm and humor. In an account that covers the period from the years preceding Franklin D. Roosevelt's first term as Governor of New York State, to the day of his death during his fourth term as President of the United States, she discusses with characteristic honesty and frankness the intimate personal problems the Roosevelts faced as the family of FDR. Like *This Is My Story (AFB, 1937)*, which covered the years from her early childhood to the time just before her husband's election as governor, it is the story of a great lady, told with the simplicity and humanity that are so particularly hers.

Sheean, Vincent—LEAD, KINDLY LIGHT *(Random House, 1949)* —29 records—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

From half across the world Vincent Sheean was drawn to India by a sudden, deep and disturbing divination. He found the dreadful newspaper story he anticipated—he witnessed the assassination of Gandhi; but he found too, in his talks with the great Mahatma, what he had long sought and had never expected, peace of soul for himself and a belief in God. This is the story he tells, and with it the life of Gandhi.

Taylor, Robert Lewis—W. C. FIELDS: His Follies and Fortunes *(Doubleday, 1949)*—23 records—read by Robert Donley AFB

Rasping, boastful, incensed, and absurd, W. C. Fields' voice still echoes in the ears of millions who watched him on the old vaudeville stage, or who laughed through his movies. It can be heard again in the pages of this biography. Fields, who died on Christmas day in 1946, was born in Philadelphia to a Cockney family and opened warfare with his father almost on sight. When he was eleven he conceded a decision by leaving home for good. He kept alive by stealing, and he lived to juggle, a skill he had first observed in a Philadelphia theater and which became his life's obsession. When he died he had lived out more than six decades of a life as

unlikely as that of any character he ever portrayed. An he was known as one of America's greatest comedians.

Wright, Helen—SWEEPER IN THE SKY: The Life of Maria Mitchell *(Macmillan, 1949)*—18 records—read by Morris Flournoy APH

This is the interesting life of a remarkable person—America's first woman astronomer, who lived from 1818 to 1889. Maria Mitchell was born and brought up on the island of Nantucket. There, as a child, she "swept" the skies from the "walk" above her house. There, too, she discovered the comet of 1847, known as the Maria Mitchell comet, and for that discovery was awarded a gold medal by the King of Denmark. But she was not only a great astronomer. She was a great teacher and also an ardent leader in the woman's right movement, and President of the Association for the Advancement of Women.

GEOGRAPHY

Peattie, Roderick—GEOGRAPHY IN HUMAN DESTINY *(George W. Stewart, 1940)*—13 records—read by Milton Metz APH

This book is concerned with geography, but not with capitals or boundaries. It is concerned chiefly with our understanding of people —people as individuals, communities and nations. It shows the different human characteristics that develop in mountains and plains, in grasslands and forests. It explains the extent to which geographic regions have influenced the evolution of the individual, physically and psychologically, and the part environment has played to make nations and turn the course of history. It shows the geography of peace and the newest feature of American geographic philosophy —the significance of conservation in our national life.

HISTORY

Barr, Stringfellow—THE PILGRIMAGE OF WESTERN MAN *(Harcourt, Brace, 1949)*—32 records—read by the Author AFB

"Mr. Barr, distinguished educator, historian, and the former president of St. John's College, re-interprets, in a solid, substantial manner, the chief turning-points of modern European history, from the end of the medieval period to the challenge of the atomic age.

A pilgrimage is not aimless wandering, but a journey with a definite goal. Either we have a goal—which can be nothing but universal justice under universal law—or we are really what the totalitarians, whether those of Soviet Russia or those of the democratic states, slyly imply—mindless flotsam in an ocean of meaningless time. Mr. Barr, taking the first view, forms history out of what would otherwise be mere chronicle. The book closes with a close analysis, as Mr. Barr believes, of the central alternatives of our time: World Government or World Suicide."—Clifton Fadiman, *Book-of-the-Month Club News.*

Churchill, Winston—THE GATHERING STORM (The Second World War, Part I)—19 records—read by Duncan Carse NIB

It is not unlikely that this work will be placed, by later appraisers, in the company of Thucydides and Gibbon. For like them it deals with one of the momentous eras of human history; and like them, it makes Olympians of its readers. "So long as the English language is understood," said the *New York Times,* in introducing the book, "these and other words of this versatile and controversial world figure, to whom so many owe so much, will probably be read."

Churchill, Winston—THEIR FINEST HOUR (The Second World War, Part II)—20 records—read by Duncan Carse NIB

"This second volume is drama, the greatest drama since the Napoleonic age. And it is written as drama. Winston Churchill, as Prime Minister, ceases to be merely a great individual, and becomes the embodiment of the desperate will of a people. The first book was largely his own story; this volume is the drama of the death of France, the defence of England against a Europe overrun by the enemy, and the final beating back of a great new tide of world conquest aimed at nothing less than total control of all the peoples of the earth."—*Book-of-the-Month Club News.*

Hill, Christopher—LENIN AND THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION *(Hodder & Stoughton, 1950)*—12 records—read by Joseph Macleod NIB

This book is one of the *Teach Yourself History* library, a series

covering personalities and periods of seminal importance, each volume written by an authority on the subject.

Hungerford, Edward—WELLS FARGO *(Random House, 1949)* —16 records—read by Morris Flournoy APH

The author, a leading transportation historian and former Wells Fargo executive, tells of the tremendous events from the formation of Wells, Fargo and Company in 1851 down to the present. You will discover how Wells Fargo banking, express and mail-carrying services accepted the challenge of the wild, sudden and spectacular growth of California; how Wells Fargo financing made possible much of the early industrial development of the booming Pacific Coast region; how Wells Fargo's bandit-beset express carried millions of dollars in gold bullion with never a loss to a customer.

Trevelyan, G. M.—GARIBALDI AND THE MAKING OF ITALY: June-November 1860 *(Longmans, 1949)*—19 records—read by Duncan Carse NIB

"Follows Garibaldi and the Thousand, tracing picturesquely and with consummate skill the larger military, diplomatic and political events between June and November, 1860, by which the original achievements of the Thousand led to the unification of Italy."—*N. Y. State Library.*

HUMOR

Benchley, Robert—CHIPS OFF THE OLD BENCHLEY—with an Introduction by Frank Sullivan *(Harper, 1949)*—15 records —read by Milton Metz APH

Here is a collection of Benchley pieces that have never before been published in book form. Dating back to the thirties and even to the early twenties, the material in this volume justifies Stephen Leacock's comment: "As a writer of nonsense for nonsense' sake, he is unsurpassed."

Lasswell, Mary—ONE ON THE HOUSE *(Houghton Mifflin, 1949)* —11 records—read by Burt Blackwell APH

Mary Lasswell says her fans write and tell her specifically what they want the Unholy Three—Mrs. Feeley, Mrs. Rasmussen, Miss Tink-

ham—to do next. Since the appearance of *Suds in Your Eye (AFB, 1945)*, Mrs. Lasswell has received hundreds of letters asking when The Ladies were going to board the train for New York. So she stayed contentedly in her three-stove kitchen at Old Fort Farm, Newport, Rhode Island, and let The Girls take over. This book is the result.

Streeter, Edward—FATHER OF THE BRIDE *(Simon & Schuster, 1949)*—8 records—read by Kermit Murdock AFB

"It is obvious that Mr. Streeter writes about things he is familiar with. That is often a great help to a writer, and it has done Mr. Streeter no harm. *Dere Mable*, one learns from Alice Payne Hackett's 'Fifty Years of Best Sellers,' sold 615,000 copies. It was bought not *by* soldiers, but *for* soldiers. *Father of the Bride* is obviously the marginalia of another personal experience, and it will be bought not *by* expectant fathers-in-law, but *for* expectant fathers-in-law, who will welcome it not only as good reading but as a practical manual. This is the sort of book which one reads, as one read *Dere Mable,* for verification of one's own experience. In families which have married off one or more daughters, it will create minor frictions as the result of repeated interruptions: 'Oh, Fred (Anne), just listen to this!' But even the unwed will enjoy it. It is hard, in fact, to think of people who won't."—John T. Winterich, *Saturday Review of Literature.*

MYTHOLOGY

Hamilton, Edith—MYTHOLOGY *(Little, Brown, 1942)*—22 records—read by Terry Hayes APH

"Miss Hamilton's study is more than a lively guidebook of gods and goddesses. It is a wise discourse on mythology itself, and shows what can happen when love and erudition animate a gifted writer to communicate the necessary elements of a complex and noble subject."—Irwin Edman, *The Nation.*

NATURAL SCIENCE

Beebe, William—HIGH JUNGLE *(Duell, Sloan & Pearce, 1949)*—22 records—read by Paul Clark APH

Dr. Beebe's first new book in five years is based on his recent ex-

peditions to the Venezuelan Andes in 1945, 1946, and 1948, and is actually the fruit of a lifetime of research and adventure all over the world. He who takes off with Dr. Beebe on this trip will find his eyes and ears filled with the wonders of a tropical paradise and will lose himself among the strange birds, beautiful insects and rare flowers that fill this world.

PHILOSOPHY

Cohen, Morris R.—STUDIES IN PHILOSOPHY AND SCIENCE *(Holt, 1949)*—17 records—read by Walter Gerard APH

The essays which make up this posthumous collection cover a time-span of over three decades in the life of the late Morris R. Cohen, one of the foremost American philosophers of our time. Although the material groups itself naturally in the general fields of philosophy, the philosophy of science, and science itself, individual essays touch on such diverse subjects as: Bacon and the Inductive Method; The Origins of Modern Science, Einstein's Theory of Relativity; The Faith of a Logician.

POST-WAR WORLD

Hindus, Maurice—IN SEARCH OF A FUTURE: Persia, Egypt, Iraq, and Palestine *(Doubleday, 1949)*—16 records—read by Walter Gerard APH

From observations based on long residence and frequent travels in eastern Europe and the Middle East, Mr. Hindus believes that Jewish Palestine, in achieving a workable agricultural economy and proving that desert lands may be prosperous, provides a working plan for the other nations of the Middle East. And now is the most advantageous time for them to start, Mr. Hindus feels, while most of these countries are still secure from foreign encroachment. This book is a sympathetic analysis of a problem which the author believes has to be solved, and solved soon.

PSYCHOLOGY

Overstreet, H. A.—THE MATURE MIND *(Norton, 1949)*—16 records—read by Robert Donley AFB

"No doubt you've heard of the little boy who, asked what he wanted

to be when he grew up, replied, 'An adult.' It's a safe bet that the attentive reader of Dr. Overstreet's book will finish it fired with the little boy's ambition. It is Dr. Overstreet's thesis, developed with perfect good humor and no less perfect good sense, that most of us grow old without growing mature; and that we can do something about it."—Clifton Fadiman, *Book-of-the-Month Club News.*

RELIGION

The Holy Bible

The Library of Congress is gradually replacing the old recording of the Bible in the libraries with the new edition being read by Alexander Scourby on 10-inch records. As certain groups of records are released they will be announced. with the container number indicating their eventual place in the series.

The Old Testament (King James Version)—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

Container I: The First Book of Moses, Called GENESIS—8 records

Container IV: The Book of JOSHUA—4 records
The Book of JUDGES—4 records

Container IX: The Book of the Prophet EZEKIEL—7 records
The Books of DANIEL, HOSEA, and JOEL—4 records
AMOS—1 record
OBADIAH AND JONAH—1 record
MICAH AND NAHUM—1 record
HABAKKUK, ZEPHANIAH AND HAGGAI—1 record
ZACHARIAH AND MALACHI—2 records

Mencken, H. L.—Treatise on the Gods *(Knopf, 1946)*—19 records—read by Sidney Walton AFB

Contents: The Nature and Origin of Religion; Its Evolution; Its Varieties; Its Christian Form; Its State Today. Says the author: "My book is mainly factual. Its purpose is simply to get together, in handy and I hope readable form, the material data about the

embryology, anatomy and physiology of theology, with an occasional glance at its pathology." Said Hazelton Spencer in the *New Republic:* "One of the few popular treatises on religion which shows no trace of fear and almost none of prejudice . . . lively without affectation, logical without sophistry, amusing, and above all, clear and wise. It is probably Mr. Mencken's best book."

SCIENCE

Ratcliff, J. D., *Ed.*—SCIENCE YEAR BOOK OF 1948 *(Doubleday, 1948)*—20 records—read by William Gladden APH

Can childbirth be painless without the use of drugs? Can the aging process be stayed? What are the facts about rocket flights to the moon? This book answers such questions and many others. From the thousands of reports on scientific achievement during the last year, the editor has collected the best for this book. Together they form a report to the nation on the progress of Medicine, Physics and Chemistry, Aviation, Astronomy, and the other sciences.

Sarton, George—THE LIFE OF SCIENCE: Essays in the History of Civilization—Foreword by Max H. Fisch—*(Henry Schuman, 1948)*—13 records—read by Milton Metz APH

These essays show that the History of Science is no narrow specialty, but a liberating approach to human culture as a whole. The History of Science "as an aspect of the operation of historical forces and conditions," as Arthur M. Schlesinger, Sr., has phrased it, is a movement rapidly becoming the important new focus in social and intellectual history. Dr. Sarton, who holds the Chair of the History of Science at Harvard University, has not only led in developing a sound scholarly basis for the movement, but in this book is the most eloquent voice of its aims as a new form of humanism.

SPORTS

Marsh, Irving T. *and* Edward Ehre, *Eds.*—BEST SPORTS STORIES 1949 *(Dutton, 1949)*—22 records—read by Paul Clark APH

This fifth annual collection of the best sports writing covers every major field of athletics. The editors have selected the best of both

newspaper and magazine sports writing and, as in previous years, the three distinguished judges—Franklin P. Adams, John Chamberlain and Quentin Reynolds—have chosen the year's prize winners.

WORLD WAR II

Williams, Eric—THE WOODEN HORSE *(Messrs. W. Collins, London, 1950)*—19 records—read by Alvar Lidell NIB

This is the almost unbelievable, but true, story of the month-long digging of a tunnel and the escape of three British fliers from a German prison camp. It is a story filled with spontaneous laughter and spine-tingling adventure.

YOUR FAVORITE SCRIPTURE PASSAGES

The American Bible Society announces that a new edition of the popular SMALL VOLUME OF SCRIPTURE PASSAGES is now available on two 10-inch records, read by Alexander Scourby, AFB Some of you will recall that the very first edition was produced in 1935 on two 12-inch records, and there have been thousands of copies sent out during the years which followed. This *Small Volume* includes many favorite passages of the Bible; such as the Twenty-third Psalm, the Sermon on the Mount, the Beatitudes, and I Corinthians 13.

The set of two records may be obtained for 50 cents enclosed with your order by writing to the American Bible Society, Blind Department, 450 Park Avenue, New York 22, N. Y. When ordering, please be sure to give your full name and address.

THOUGHTS FROM THE MOUNT OF BLESSING

The Christian Record Benevolent Association, of Lincoln, Nebraska, publishers of free religious literature for the blind, announces the recording of MOUNT OF BLESSING, as the first of a series of non-sectarian religious books to be issued by them and made available to the blind through the divisional branches for the blind of the Library of Congress. *Mount of Blessing* is a commentary on the Sermon on the Mount and the Lord's Prayer and appears on 9 records, read by William Gladden, APH. A limited number of the books are available at the head office of the Christian Record for libraries desiring such.

CHECK THE TITLES YOU WISH TO BORROW, DETACH THE LIST AND MAIL IT TO YOUR TALKING BOOK LIBRARY—**NOT TO THE FOUNDATION.**

FOR ADDITIONAL TITLES CONSULT YOUR CATALOGUE OF TALKING BOOKS FOR THE BLIND 1934-1948

Compiled by Division for the Blind
Library of Congress

Aldrich—Journey into Christmas—10 r. APH
Allen—The Great Pierpont Morgan—17 r. AFB
Barr—The Pilgrimage of Western Man—32 r. AFB
Baum—Nanking Road—53 r. NIB
Beebe—High Jungle—22 r. APH
Benchley—Chips off the Old Benchley—15 r. APH
Bible: Container I—Genesis—8 r. AFB
Bible: Container IV—Joshua & Judges—8 r. AFB
Bible: Container IX—Ezekiel—Malachi—17 r. AFB
Bleiler—The Best Science Fiction Stories: 1949—18 r. APH
Bonnet—The Mudlark—21 r. AFB
Brittain—Arthur Quiller-Couch—13 r. NIB
Bromfield—Possession—33 r. AFB
Burke—With a Feather on My Nose—14 r. AFB
Carr—The Life of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle—26 r. NIB
Chesterton—Autobiography—22 r. APH
Churchill—The Gathering Storm—19 r. NIB
Churchill—Their Finest Hour—20 r. NIB

☐ Cohen—Studies in Philosophy and Science—17 r. APH
☐ Croy—Jesse James Was My Neighbor—13 r. APH
☐ Dostoevsky—The House of the Dead—26 r. NIB
☐ Eggleston—The Hoosier School-Master—12 r. AFB
☐ Freeman—George Washington: Volume I 34 r. APH
☐ Freeman—George Washington: Volume II 24 r. APH
☐ Guthrie—The Way West—20 r. APH
☐ Hall—Bird of Time—19 r. APH
☐ Hamilton—Mythology—22 r. APH
☐ Hill—Lenin and the Russian Revolution—12 r. NIB
☐ Hindus—In Search of a Future—16 r. APH
☐ Howe—Call it Treason—24 r. AFB
☐ Hungerford—Wells Fargo—16 r. APH
☐ James—The Cherokee Strip—19 r. APH
☐ Lasswell—One on the House—11 r. APH
☐ McCrone—Aunt Bel—15 r. APH
☐ Marriott—The Valley Below—15 r. AFB
☐ Marsh—Best Sports Stories 1949—22 r. APH
☐ Mason—Cutlass Empire—33 r. APH
☐ Mauldin—A Sort of a Saga—12 r. APH
☐ Mencken—Treatise on the Gods—19 r. AFB

SEE REVERSE SIDE

- ☐ Overstreet—The Mature Mind—16 r. AFB
- ☐ Pearson—Dickens—31 r. APH
- ☐ Peattie—Geography in Human Destiny—13 r. APH
- ☐ Peterson—Great Teachers—23 r. APH
- ☐ Ratcliff—Science Year Book of 1948—20 r. APH
- ☐ Reyher—Zulu Woman—19 r. AFB
- ☐ Richter—The Free Man—6 r. APH
- ☐ Roosevelt—This I Remember—26 r. AFB
- ☐ Sarton—The Life of Science—13 r. APH
- ☐ Sheean—Lead, Kindly Light—29 r. AFB
- ☐ Shellabarger—The King's Cavalier—29 r. APH
- ☐ Slocum—Sailing Alone Around the World—24 r. NIB
- ☐ Stout—The Second Confession—13 r. A
- ☐ Streeter—Father of the Bride—8 r. A
- ☐ Taylor—W. C. Fields—23 r. AFB
- ☐ Trevelyan—Garibaldi and the Making Italy—19 r. NIB
- ☐ Trollope—The Small House at Allingto 48 r. NIB
- ☐ White—Thoughts from the Mount Blessing—9 r. APH
- ☐ Williams—The Wooden Horse—19 r. NI
- ☐ Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine—Oc ber, November, December, 1950 AP
- ☐ Reader's Digest—October, November, cember, 1950 APH
- ☐ Talking Book Topics—March, June, S tember, December, 1950 AFB

Dear Librarian: I would like to borrow the titles checked on this list:

READER'S NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE POSTAL UNIT NO.

(SEE REVERSE SIDE)

TALKING BOOK TOPICS

VOL. XVII, NO. 1 MARCH, 1951

Issued Quarterly by the

AMERICAN FOUNDATION *for the* BLIND, Inc.

15 WEST 16th STREET • NEW YORK 11, N. Y.

Entered as second-class matter June 11, 1936, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of August 24, 1912.

Talking Book Topics

VOL. XVII, NO. 1 MARCH, 1951

The American Foundation for the Blind is a national agency the purpose of which is to promote increasingly and uncompromisingly the interests of all the blind throughout the United States, in close cooperation with all local organizations.

TALKING BOOK TOPICS is issued by the Foundation in inkprint, and in Talking Book form, four times a year—in March, June, September, and December. A printed copy is sent to all readers, free of charge, to aid you in requesting titles from your regular distributing library. There is a subscription price of $1 a year for the recorded edition.

If you can afford the yearly subscription price of $1 in order to receive the magazine in recorded form, please tear out the coupon in this issue, have it filled in, and mail it to the Talking Book Department of the American Foundation for the Blind, 15 West 16th Street, New York 11, New York, accompanied by your remittance.

Enclosed find the sum of $1.00 to cover one year's subscription for the recorded edition of TALKING BOOK TOPICS. Please send this magazine to:

SUBSCRIBER'S NAME _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

POSTAL UNIT NO. _____

STATE _____

NEW TALKING BOOKS

The following Talking Books, recently recorded for the Library of Congress, may now be borrowed from your regular distributing library.

AFB—*American Foundation for the Blind, New York, N. Y.*
APH—*American Printing House for the Blind, Louisville, Kentucky.*
NIB—*National Institute for the Blind, London, England.*

FICTION

Arnow, Harriette—HUNTER'S HORN *(Macmillan, 1949)*—39 records—read by Livingston Gilbert APH

"In these pages Harriette Arnow has brought to glowing life a people, a way of life, and a culture. In essence *Hunter's Horn* is the story of Nunn Ballew and of how he hunted down a superb red fox, King Devil; but, as a whole, it is the story of all the people who lived along the banks of Little Smokey Creek at the end of a gravel road in the Kentucky Hills. To me, the most remarkable thing about it is that it runs to 508 pages. Had I not the evidence of the numbered pages I would not have believed it; seldom have I read a book that erased so completely the passage of time."—Victor P. Hass, *Saturday Review of Literature.*

Beach, Rex E.—THE SILVER HORDE *(Harper, 1909)*—21 records—read by George Patterson APH

Rex Beach was dubbed by some reviewers "the Victor Hugo of the North." *The Silver Horde* is a genuinely interesting novel about salmon fishing and breeding.

Castor, Henry—THE YEAR OF THE SPANIARD: A Novel of 1898 *(Doubleday, 1950)*—18 records—read by Milton Metz APH

This is a lusty novel of the Spanish-American War that relates the adventures—sometimes funny, sometimes grim—of two young men who had strenuous parts in that bloody, muddled, and exasperating event in our history. Caleb Hawkins and Warren Spangler shared

an interest in the social problems of the day—and in the beautiful Susan Brecht. When the *Maine* was sunk, the yellow journals howled for war; Caleb went as a soldier, Warren as a reporter. In Tampa they learned the ways of war riotously from the Army and also from such famous authorities as Stephen Crane, Richard Harding Davis, and Stephen Bonsal, all of whom came to watch the show. The author re-creates vividly the excitement, tensity, and drama of this frenetic period.

Chapman, Maristan—ROGUE'S MARCH *(Lippincott, 1949)*—26 records—read by Morris Flournoy APH

In the fall of the year 1780, near the point where Tennessee, the Carolinas, and Georgia come together, was fought the battle of King's Mountain in which were involved some of the least publicized, most important personalities in American Revolutionary history. Here is a tale of frontier adventure, starring Lantry Ward, an unpretentious hero who does not exactly aim for trouble, but shoots straight enough when it comes.

Costain, Thomas B.—THE CONQUERORS (The Pageant of England: Volume I) *(Doubleday, 1949)*—30 records—read by James Baskerville APH

"English history, the English history our grandfathers enjoyed in Dickens's *Child's History of England* or, if they were intellectual, in the volumes of Mr. David Hume, is full of good stories, stories once a living part of our tradition, which now we are beginning to forget. It is time somebody undertook to retell them so that they can be enjoyed again by American readers, and Thomas Costain is a fine man for the job. This volume starts with the Norman Conquest and carries the story of the foreign kings from Stamford Bridge and Hastings to the granting of Magna Charta and the death of wicked King John, a well-chosen starting point and a lucky period to begin with."—Garrett Mattingly, *Saturday Review of Literature.*

Goudge, Elizabeth—GENTIAN HILL *(Coward-McCann, 1949)* 26 records—read by John Brewster AFB

There were not many people in the small West Country town of

Torquay who knew who the chaplain of Torre Abbey really was. He was known among the townsfolk as the Abbé de Colbert. Long before he had come to this English harbor town, however, he had been Charles Sebastian Michel de Colbert, the Comte de Colbert. The French Revolution deprived him of home, family, and country. That he was alive at all was the result of his miraculous escape effected by the village cure, and the devoted nursing of Thérèse, the lovely young novice who became his wife. But this is not the Abbé's story alone. It is also the story of a part of England that has become a part of Elizabeth Goudge—the West Country—where she now lives and which she has portrayed in several of her most successful novels.

Kennedy, Margaret—THE FEAST *(Rinehart, 1950)*—18 records—read by John Brewster AFB

"Here is a book which is intended as allegory, but can be read as straight novel. In it the seven deadly sins are personified in the figures of the tale, and good triumphs over evil, while catastrophe wipes out the ill-intentioned or indifferent in one fell swoop. Miss Kennedy has devised a striking situation and some odd and original characters, but her attempt to make them point a moral has resulted in weakening the novel by forcing her to one-dimensional portrayal of personalities."—George Harriss, *Book-of-the-Month Club News.*

Lea, Tom—THE BRAVE BULLS *(Little, Brown, 1949)*—15 records—read by Ben Grauer AFB

"This is a beautiful book. It is a distinguished book. Quite possibly it is a great book. Certainly it could be read at any time in history by readers of any nationality or cultural background and lose none of its depth, validity, or universal appeal and timelessness; and that is one of the profound tests of a great book. Primarily it is about a Mexican bullfighter; fundamentally it is concerned with man and his struggles. It is certainly a book which will hearten the great number of readers and reviewers and editors who have been distressed at the low estate of American novel-writing during the past few years."—Louis Bromfield, *Saturday Review of Literature.* Editor's Note: *This book is strong stuff in every sense of the word. Caveat lector.*

Mason, Van Wyck—Dardanelles Derelict *(Doubleday, 1949)*—16 records—read by James Baskerville APH

In Istanbul, cradle of international intrigue, the struggle between Turkish and American agents and a mysterious Moscow-trained renegade began. The situation called for a man of Major Hugh North's unique talent. But to the horror of his friends, North apparently had suffered a complete crack-up and had turned traitor. Things moved swiftly for the ace of G-2—until interrogation came at the hands of the terrible MVD. Major North is in top form in this fast action intrigue in his struggle with the Kremlin's best agents.

Mitchell, S. Weir—The Adventures of François: Foundling, Thief, Juggler, and Fencing Master During the French Revolution *(Appleton-Century, 1898)*—15 records—read by James Baskerville APH

A romance of the French Revolution, of special interest and value for its picture of the lower life of Paris during the period known as that of the Terror. Its hero is not a creature of fiction, but a real personage, and Dr. Mitchell's pages tell a story based upon genuine historical information.

Poole, Ernest—His Family *(Macmillan, 1917)*—18 records —read by Burt Blackwell APH

This Pulitzer Prize winner for 1918 tells the story of Roger Gale, who has come to New York as a lad from New Hampshire and finds himself, after his wife's death, surrounded by three half-grown daughters who embody dissimilar types of womanhood and whom he hardly knows. The multiple personality of the city is seen through the varied characters of the daughters, each of whom lives in a different New York.

Sedges, John—The Long Love *(John Day, 1949)*—20 records —read by Jan Tyroler APH

"This artfully planned and carefully thought out novel records the courtship, marriage, and home building of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Haslatt of Chedbury, Massachusetts. Frank without being crude,

The Long Love gives an inside view of two successfully married people which is subtle in its exploration of the delicate undertones whereby the total harmony is achieved. The author demonstrates that it is still possible to write an artistically sound book without sacrificing either honesty on the one hand, or good taste on the other."—*U.S. Quarterly Book List.*

Waltari, Mika—THE EGYPTIAN—translated by Naomi Walford *(Putnam's, 1949)*—41 records—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

"An ancient world comes magnificently to life in this story. Historians and archeologists have long tried to reconstruct the great civilization of the Egyptians. They have given us mummies and hieroglyphics, these scholars; but it has taken an understanding novelist to change these ancient shadows into living substance. It is through the life story of a young doctor, Sinuhe—skeptical, curious, warm-hearted, trained in Egyptian medical science—that we come to know the nature of this civilization. A surgeon at the court of the great Pharaoh, he is an unsurpassed teller of a tale which lacks nothing of psychological subtlety, while it is so rich in incident that no reader of this book will ever again be able to look in pictures or museums at the recovered remains of these empires without feeling the warmth of a complex life rising out of the remote past."—Henry Seidel Canby, *Book-of-the-Month Club News.*

Wilson Ethel—THE INNOCENT TRAVELLER *(Macmillan, 1949)* —14 records—read by Terry Hayes APH

Topaz Edgeworth travelled through a full hundred years of living, always gay, irreverent, unpredictable, and utterly untouched by any of the world's evil, though she had her share of its sorrows. In a series of delightful character studies and descriptions we see her first as a child in a prosperous and populous Victorian home. As the years skip by she pursues as ardently as ever her immaterial and engrossing affairs, and at the age of fifty she is crossing the Atlantic to a new home in Canada. Her apotheosis comes, when, on a visit to England, she is commanded to Buckingham Palace to see the Queen.

COLLECTIONS

Derleth, August, *Ed.*—The Other Side of the Moon *(Pellegrini & Cudahy, 1949)*—32 records—read by Robert Donley AFB

Future worlds have been favorite settings for science-fiction writers since the popularization of this branch of fantasy some two decades ago, but the impact of the atomic bomb has greatly increased speculation about the tomorrow of mankind. Two of the twenty stories in the present collection are concerned directly with the atomic bomb. Another deals with the terrible consequences of bacteriological warfare. One deals with a robot with an evil, contorted brain while yet another describes an impending collision between earth and outer stars. All in all, a cheery little collection of horror.

MYSTERY AND DETECTIVE

Carr, John Dickson—Below Suspicion *(Harper, 1949)*—12 records—read by Walter Gerard APH

In the English high-courts some called Patrick Butler "The Great Defender," while to others he was "that damned Irishman." Butler preferred murder cases; he preferred his clients to be guilty; and he was being quite sincere when he said firmly: "I am never wrong." Here he is presented with a tight detective puzzle; and here, too, are chases through darkest Soho, weird rites, and tense action.

Cooke, David C., *Ed.*—Best Detective Stories of the Year 1949 *(Dutton, 1949)*—12 records—read by Morris Flournoy APH

This new collection offers an even dozen fast-moving tightly-plotted puzzlers. For those who like their spine-chillers in short but powerful doses, here is a potent offering of violent death in various guises—written by such top-notch professionals as Fredric Brown, Philip MacDonald, Q. Patrick and Harold Goldman.

Crispin, Edmund—Buried for Pleasure—15 records—read by Robin Holmes NIB

"This slightly daft item in Mr. Crispin's top manner, finds Gervase

Fen, Oxford sleuth, standing for Parliament on the independent ticket. But you can easily skip that part whenever it comes up. The point seems awfully obscure. More amusing are events at the Fish Inn, at Sanford Angelorum, not far from Sanford Marvel and Sanford Conover, where there's talk about a French lady poisoned through the post, a stuffed fish that stares, some surprisingly ignorant twaddle about insulin as a murder method, an unclothed traveller in the night, a hunter, a fatal stabbing on the golf links, and the rector's poltergeist, which or whom he had managed to endure for eighteen years by teaching it not to polter after midnight."—Will Cuppy, *N. Y. Herald Tribune.*

Cunningham, A. B.—The Hunter Is the Hunted *(Dutton, 1950)*—12 records—read by Burt Blackwell APH

Jay Daw, U.S. Deputy Marshal, went into the lawless backwoods region of Cole Forks looking for a moonshiner—and never came back. At least not alive. And when Jess Roden, invincible Kentucky sleuth, went up the river after Daw's killer he took an even greater risk. For gradually he realized that he was being challenged by a brain as skilled and cunning as his own and that he, who had always been an open hunter, was being subtly hunted by his own quarry.

Seely, Mabel—The Beckoning Door *(Doubleday, 1950)*—13 records—read by Morris Flournoy APH

Cathy Kingman was quiet enough to meet, but she was deep in revolt against the circumstances that kept her in the little Midwest Town of Long Meadow. Her resentment extended to her cousin Sylvia who, having inherited the estate that Cathy wanted, returned to Long Meadow and callously broke up Cathy's romance. Then Sylvia hinted that she could open the door to the outside world, and Cathy thought the moment of escape had come. But—a fortuneteller prophesied that Sylvia would not live long, and the prophecy came violently true. And Cathy knew that to prove her innocence she must find the murderer.

WESTERN

Halleran, E. E.—Prairie Guns *(Blakiston, 1944)*—11 records—read by Milton Metz APH

"Satisfactory shooting yarn."—*Virginia Kirkus Bookshop Service.*

ADVENTURE AND TRAVEL

Akeley, Mary L. Jobe—RUMBLE OF A DISTANT DRUM *(Dodd, Mead, 1946)*—21 records—read by Diane deBrett AFB

The author says: "This is the true story of the high adventures of ten-year-old Mihigo, a native Watusi of royal blood, who traveled with me across half the African continent while I was completing the expedition for the Akeley African Hall of the American Museum of Natural History, after the sudden death of my husband, Carl Akeley, in the gorilla volcanoes of the Belgian Congo. On Christmas Eve, Mihigo had brought me a gift of wild strawberries and as he knelt before me, he declared that he wanted to go with me on safari. He 'wanted to see *a new world*—to go as far as I, the Memsahib would go!' Interwoven with the story of this intrepid child, I have included important facts in the life history of Mihigo's tribe and in that of other tribes with whom our lot was cast."

Flavin, Martin—BLACK AND WHITE *(Harper, 1950)*—22 records—read by Walter Gerard APH

This book was written by a somewhat crotchety old gentleman, sixty-five years young, whose zest for life is unabated, who has been in turn a successful manufacturer, a Broadway playwright, and a Pulitzer-prize-winning novelist. This, his first venture in nonfiction, is about the black and white people scattered thinly across Africa. And it is quite unlike any travel book you ever read.

Logan, Milla Z.—COUSINS AND COMMISSARS *(Scribner's, 1949)*—11 records—read by Terry Hayes APH

"If the reader wants the political and military low-down on the Tito-Stalin feud, he will be disappointed in this book. There is a minimum of politics and ideology, and no military or diplomatic exposés. The cousins, in short, far outnumber the commissars. But if the reader wants a close-up of some of the Yugoslav people, he will find this a highly enlightening volume. For here is a fascinating description of the Serbs who live along a section of the Adriatic coast. Their story is told with zest, with understanding, with keen humor. *Cousins and Commissars* will undoubtedly throw a good deal more light on the background of the present crisis than would the average book on economics, diplomacy, and military power."—Henry C. Wolfe, *Saturday Review of Literature.*

BIOGRAPHY

Day, Donald, *Ed.*—The Autobiography of Will Rogers *(Houghton Mifflin, 1949)*—26 records—read by Livingston Gilbert APH

In addition to a number of articles for *The Saturday Evening Post* and several humorous books, Will Rogers wrote a newspaper column from 1922 until his tragic death in 1935. In this column and in his other writings, published and unpublished, Will was actually recording his own life story. Now Donald Day has selected the best of it for this autobiography. Because Will followed politics and world affairs so closely his story is also an informal history of the United States during the Boom, the Bust, and the New Deal.

Schweitzer, Albert—Out of My Life and Thought—translated by C. T. Campion *(Holt, 1949)*—18 records—read by Kermit Murdock AFB

This is the remarkable life-story of one of the world's truly great men. Already famous at the age of thirty as musician, philosopher, and theologian, Albert Schweitzer decided to become a doctor and to devote his life to healing the sick and suffering among native African tribes. He abandoned a brilliant career in Europe to found a hospital in Lambarené at the edge of the primeval jungle. He has not only labored at his self-sacrificing task, but he has continued with his other interests as well—keeping up his organ technique on a specially equipped piano; writing a series of deeply perceptive books; giving lectures and recitals all over Europe to raise funds for his hospital.

Wernher, Hilda—My Indian Son-in-Law *(Doubleday, 1949)*—14 records—read by Terry Hayes APH

This is the absorbing account of the author's life in the household of her son-in-law and his new wife—a life that soon became difficult because of religious and class prejudices. It tells, too, the beautiful and moving love story of a charming young Brahman girl and a distinguished Indian economist in whose romance the author became involved. And it reveals how the author found an inner peace, and wisdom to solve her own difficult problem through her unselfish interest in securing the happiness of others.

ECONOMICS

Ware, Norman—WEALTH AND WELFARE: The Backgrounds of American Economics *(Wm. Sloane Associates, 1949)*—11 records—read by Paul Clark APH

In these headlong pages the author manages to describe and explain the chief economic developments of the last thousand years of Western civilization. He offers an historical perspective that clarifies our responses to the welter of economic theories about what is happening to the world today.

HISTORY

Stettinius, Edward R., Jr.—ROOSEVELT AND THE RUSSIANS: The Yalta Conference—Edited by Walter Johnson *(Doubleday, 1949)*—16 records—read by John Knight AFB

"Attempting to prove unjust the bitter attacks on American policy at Yalta, Secretary Stettinius holds that Russia conceded more than did the Western Powers. Attacks on the Conference other than those made by the Roosevelt haters have, he declares, come rather from disappointment over the postwar failure to carry out the Yalta agreements themselves. Drawing heavily on personal knowledge of the Conference, on many hitherto unrevealed documents of the meeting, and on conservations with the main participants, Mr. Stettinius presents the most complete account of the Yalta meeting yet available, and makes a strong case for American policy."—*U.S. Quarterly Book List.*

HUMOR

Cuppy, Will—HOW TO ATTRACT THE WOMBAT *(Rinehart, 1949)*—6 records—read by Burt Blackwell APH

Is the Wombat animal, vegetable, or mineral? Answer: Animal. What kind of animal? There are some broad hints about that in the introduction, *Are Wombats People?* and some amazing facts in the piece entitled, with startling simplicity, *The Wombat.* Besides the theme song, here for the first time in any book are all those Cuppy pieces—fifty of them in round numbers—that have been sweeping the country, in a mild way, for the past few years, from *Mammals for Beginners* to *Birds Who Can't Sing and Know It.*

PHILOSOPHY

Parmenter, Ross—The Plant in My Window *(Crowell, 1949)*—6 records—read by the Author AFB

This story tells of a city dweller who adopted a plant left behind by a former tenant. It was not a rare plant, nor a particularly beautiful one; but because it was growing, he could not bear to throw it out. Soon he became absorbed in watching this curiously touching, living thing that could grow and prosper in spite of neglect, and could respond so dramatically to light and water. As the only living thing in his room, it gained a special meaning for him as the incarnation of the force of life itself. He began to see his values in a new light, to discover how a plant can reveal the underlying truths in life that are so often obscured by the complexity of modern society.

Smith, Thomas Vernor—The Philosophic Way of Life in America *(University of Chicago Press, 1943)*—14 records —read by Jean Clos APH

"This book, written in a clear and attractive style, provides a good, popular account of the effect of various systems of thought on the general spirit in which a man practically faces life. It is, in a sense, an attempt at a synthesis of the ruling ideas of four philosophers prominent in America. The philosophy of Royce is taken as typical of the religious way of life; that of William James as typical of the scientific way; that of Dewey as typical of the social way; and that of Santayana as typical of the aesthetic way."—*A. L. A. Booklist.*

RELIGION

The Holy Bible (King James Version)—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

Old Testament:

Container III: The Fourth Book of Moses, Called Numbers —7 records

The Fifth Book of Moses, Called Deuteronomy—5 records

Container VI: The First Book of the CHRONICLES—5 records
The Second Book of the CHRONICLES—6 records
EZRA *and* The Book of NEHEMIAH—4 records
The Book of ESTHER *and* The Book of JOB—6 records

Lofts, Noah—WOMEN IN THE OLD TESTAMENT *(Macmillan, 1949)*—13 records—read by William Gladden APH

Here are portraits of twenty outstanding women of the Old Testament. They range from simple women of the desert to magnificent princesses; there are women of practical common sense and women of a mystical turn of mind; harlots and prudes, and women who have made history. Sarah, Hagar, Ruth, Delilah, Jael, and the Queen of Sheba, all these characters are pictured in striking contrast, and their adventurous, romantic lives read like fiction.

Marshall, Peter—MR. JONES, MEET THE MASTER: Sermons and Prayers *(Revell, 1950)*—8 records—read by Paul Clark APH

Peter Marshall, beloved Chaplain of the United States Senate, passed away recently at the age of forty-six. The sermons in this collection were preached from his pulpit in Washington's historic New York Avenue Presbyterian Church; the prayers were given in the U.S. Senate. The sermons were addressed not to the rich and illustrious but to the man he preferred to call "Mr. Jones"—to clerks, motormen, butchers, housewives in the kitchens, students, the lonely girl in the hospital ward.

Niebuhr, Reinhold—FAITH AND HISTORY: A Comparison of Christian and Modern Views of History *(Scribner's, 1949)*—18 records— read by Jean Clos APH

The main theme of Dr. Niebuhr's book is history. He points out that there is an historical development particularly of human freedom and power, but that this development is both creative and destructive and is, therefore, not a guarantee of moral progress.

Dr. Niebuhr points out that man's life and history can be made intelligible only within the framework of a larger realm of mystery and meaning discerned by faith. A Christian interpretation of life and history furnishes a constructive answer, he maintains.

SCIENCE

Barnett, Lincoln—THE UNIVERSE AND DR. EINSTEIN—with a Foreword by Albert Einstein *(Harper, 1950)*—6 records—read by Sidney Walton AFB

"With transparent clarity, the author sets down the fundamental concepts of science as it has developed under Einstein's mighty extensions of Newton's dogmas and laws. It is with marvelling admiration and precise comprehension that the professional physicist reads Mr. Barnett's luminous, honest presentation of what modern science knows and guesses about the nature of the universe. I don't at all claim that the rest of us can do the same, or anything like the same. But we can get from this fine, mercifully short book a general idea, not less valuable and useful to us because it is general and not exact."—Dorothy Canfield, *Book-of-the-Month Club News.*

SOCIAL SCIENCE

Bush, Vannevar—MODERN ARMS AND FREE MEN: A discussion of the Role of Science in Preserving Democracy *(Simon & Schuster, 1949)*—17 records—read by Lauren Gilbert AFB

"Vannevar Bush, more than any other man who ever lived, has been concerned with the management of large-scale research. In recent years he has supervised the application of science to warfare, which is one of the most prominent novelties of our time. *Modern Arms and Free Men* is an examination of how modern science and the democratic process, both agencies of profound and rapid change, are affecting the nature of war. On this point Bush advances two conclusions to whose support the argument of the book is devoted: 'I believe, first, that the technological future is far less dreadful and frightening than many of us have been led to believe, and that the hopeful aspects of modern applied science outweigh by a heavy margin its threat to our civilization. I believe,

second, that the democratic process is itself an asset with which, if we can find the enthusiasm and the skill to use it and the faith to make it strong, we can build a world in which all men can live in prosperity and peace."—Louis N. Ridenour, *Saturday Review of Literature.*

Lilienthal, David E.—THIS I DO BELIEVE *(Harper, 1949)*—9 records—read by Delmar Nuetzman AFB

"This distinguished contribution to the American testament focuses upon the 'wellsprings of democracy' which Mr. Lilienthal finds in the ethical and spiritual inheritance of the western world. To the author, democracy is at once a way of life and a way of looking at life; it is concerned with fundamental principles of human conduct. Its essential values lie not in doctrine but in intelligence, not in authority but in reason, not in cynicism but in faith. The great need of the United States is for vigilance, for stern and honest self-criticism, because the fate of individualism throughout the world depends on the state of health of democracy as it exists here. As limpid and earnest as it is persuasive, this slim volume synthesizes the administrative experience of one of the country's most sensitive and reflective public servants; it should interest every citizen who has an honest concern for the position of the individual and for the effectiveness of democracy in an ever increasingly depersonalized world."—*U.S. Quarterly Book List.*

UNITED STATES

Carmer, Carl—DARK TREES TO THE WIND: A Cycle of York State Years *(William Sloane Associates, 1949)*—16 records—read by Kermit Murdock AFB

"Marked by a sure maturity of style and competent use of both oral and written tradition, *Dark Trees to the Wind* is neither completely folklore nor entirely history. Mr. Carmer has the geographer's sense of a region, the anthropologist's concept of a culture, and groups his materials in the manner of a folklorist. In space he moves across the state of New York from the western sector to the eastern borders. His book travels through time in a U curve from the present to the middle of the seventeenth century and back to today. New York, says this native son, bears more similarity to the largest of the British Isles than does any other American area; it

'lies nice to the morning sun.' In his estimation, the true Yorker is fairly conventional but is apt to be a great hoaxer and practical joker with a tendency to escape the hair shirt of conservatism by way of mystical cults. If York State culture as presented here is immature, it certainly is never dull."—*U.S. Quarterly Book List.*

Emrich, Duncan—It's an Old Wild West Custom *(Vanguard, 1949)*—14 records—read by George Patterson APH

The author—Chief of the Folklore Section of the Library of Congress—is a confirmed Westerner. In a very real sense he has "covered" the whole region in this book. He has traversed it from north to south and east to west, from Montana to Arizona and from the Rockies to the Sierra Nevada to describe those sturdy, generous, cantankerous, courageous, irascible, fun-loving, death-dealing, hard-riding, quick-shooting individuals and their sometimes astonishing customs.

Hedrick, U. P.—The Land of the Crooked Tree *(Oxford, 1940)*—22 records—read by Morris Flournoy APH

Some three hundred years ago Jesuit missionaries, arriving at the northern tip of the Michigan lower peninsula, saw a large crooked tree standing on a high bluff overlooking Lake Michigan. They named the country L'Arbre Croche. When, in 1874, the government permitted white men to buy land from the Indians, there was a rush of farmers, lumbermen, fishermen, and pigeon trappers to settle the new-old country. It is of these pioneering days that the author has written, for his father was one of the first to clear a farm from the wilderness in the Land of the Crooked Tree.

WORLD WAR II

Lederer, William J.—All the Ship's at Sea *(William Sloane Associates, 1950)*—11 records—read by William Lazar AFB

Commander Lederer begins his book with the time in 1930 when he was an enlisted man, "captain of the head" in Newport's Barracks B, and stood admiral's inspection with a wet rag stuffed into his sock. This even was instrumental in getting him into An-

napolis—through the plumbing, so to speak—and was an early indication that his career in the Navy was to be a saga of successful irregularity in a highly regular organization. This book is that saga.

Pocock, Arthur—Red Flannels and Green Ice *(Random House, 1949)*—18 records—read by Kenneth Meeker APH

After training in the Coast Guard the author was assigned to the Greenland patrol whose duty was "playing cowboy to icebergs." In Greenland and on shipboard he learned about seasickness, seals, Eskimos, and foreign residents as well as icebergs. As Bill Mauldin has said: "A different and very funny story which proves a man with a sense of humor can whip even an iceberg."

SPECIAL RELEASE

The Braille Circulating Library of 704 West Grace St., Richmond 20, Virginia, wishes to announce that they have a list of braille and Talking Book titles which they will send as a free loan to anyone, in any part of the world, who requests them. These titles comprise the Bible and also evangelistic, devotional, doctrinal, biographical, and missionary messages as well as Christian fiction.

Here is the list:

Devotional Readings by James H. McConkey and Reid Jepson—5 records
Devotional Messages by James H. McConkey—5 records
Way of Victory by James H. McConkey—5 records
Threefold Secret of the Holy Spirit by James H. McConkey—5 records
Surrendered Life by James H. McConkey—5 records
The Word and Other Messages by James H. McConkey—5 records
Faith and Other Messages by James H. McConkey—5 records
Possessing and Other Messages by Norman B. Harrison—10 records
His Joy, His Peace by N. B. Harrison—4 records
On the Wings of the Morning (Novel) by Louise Harrison McCraw—9 records
Not All That Glitters (Novel) by Louise Harrison McCraw—9 records
Glorious Triumph (Novel) by Louise Harrison McCraw—9 records
The Screwtape Letters by C. S. Lewis—7 records

These titles may be borrowed for a period of two weeks. If special request is made, they may be kept five weeks after being received. Send all communications to the address above.

TALKING BOOKS
1950

The following Talking Books, recorded for the Library of Congress, were placed in the distributing libraries during 1950. Borrowers who wish fuller descriptions of their contents are referred to the issues of Talking Book Topics in which they were originally announced. These are indicated by the letters M, J, S, D, for March, June, September, December, 1950. Note: Books listed under Special Release were not recorded for the Library of Congress although they may be in your library.

FICTION

Aldrich, Bess Streeter—A White Bird Flying—16 r. McComb APH J
Austin, Mary—Starry Adventure—25 r. Livingston Gilbert APH S
Bauer, Florence Marvyne—Abram, Son of Terah—34 r. Baskerville APH S
Baum, Vicki—Nanking Road—53 r. Wessel NIB D
Bentley, Phyllis Eleanor—Life Story—28 r. Metcalfe NIB J
Blake, Forrester—Johnny Christmas—19 r. Scourby AFB J
Bonnet, Theodore—The Mudlark—21 r. Brewster AFB D
Boyd, James—Marching On—22 r. Burt Blackwell APH M
Brace, Gerald Warner—A Summer's Tale—16 r. Patterson APH S
Bromfield, Louis—Possession—33 r. Knight AFB D
Cather, Willa—The Song of the Lark—28 r. McComb AFB J
Curwood, James Oliver—Kazan—14 r. Kozlow APH M
Davis, H. L.—Beulah Land—19 r. Metz APH J
De la Roche, Mazo—Mary Wakefield—18 r. Hayes APH J
Den Doolaard, A.—Roll Back the Sea—36 r. Donley AFB J
Disraeli, Benjamin—Coningsby—36 r. Wessel NIB S
Dostoyevsky, Fyodor—The House of the Dead—26 r. Macleod NIB D
Eggleston, Edward—The Hoosier School-Master—12 r. Kozlow AFB D
Eliot, George—Middlemarch—62 r. Carse NIB J
Guthrie, A. B., Jr.—The Way West—20 r. Burt Blackwell APH D
Hewlett, Maurice H.—The Life and Death of Richard Yea-and-Nay—20 r. Flournoy APH J
Hitrec, Joseph George—Son of the Moon—35 r. Doig AFB J
Howe, George—Call it Treason—24 r. Lane Blackwell AFB D

Ingles, James Wesley—A Woman of Samaria—13 r. Tyroler APH S

Irwin, Margaret—Elizabeth, Captive Princess—19 r. Mathews AFB S

Kelland, Clarence Budington—Merchant of Valor—16 r. Baskerville APH J

Kipling, Rudyard—The Jungle Books—27 r. Brewster AFB J

Knight, Brigid—Southern Cross—19 r. Baskerville APH M

Knight, Brigid—The Valiant Lady—36 r. Everett AFB M

Laing, Alexander—The Sea Witch—34 r. Meeker APH J

MacLennan, Hugh—The Precipice—27 r. Brewster AFB M

Marquand, John P.—Point of no Return—34 r. Burt Blackwell APH J

Marshall, Robert K.—Little Squire Jim—15 r. Fellows AFB S

Mason, F. Van Wyck—Cutlass Empire—33 r. Baskerville APH D

McCrone, Guy—Aunt Bel—15 r. Livingston Gilbert APH D

Meredith, George—The Egoist—39 r. Roy APH M

Moore, Ruth—The Fire Balloon—23 r. Patterson APH J

Muntz, Hope—The Golden Warrior—29 r. Brewster AFB J

Norris, Kathleen—Certain People of Importance—36 r. James Walton APH J

Oursler, Fulton—The Greatest Story Ever Told—26 r. Kozlow AFB J

Payne, Robert—Torrents of Spring—15 r. Hayes APH S

Peterkin, Julia—Scarlet Sister Mary—13 r. Livingston Gilbert APH M

Richter, Conrad—The Free Man—6 r. Rogers APH D

Roberts, Kenneth—Northwest Passage: Book II—25 r. Scourby AFB J

Robinson, Henry Morton—The Cardinal—41 r. Scourby AFB J

Seton, Anya—The Hearth and Eagle—33 r. Patterson APH M

Seymour, Beatrice Kean—Family Group—16 r. Engleman NIB S

Shellabarger, Samuel—The King's Cavalier—29 r. Baskerville APH D

Smith, Dodie—I Capture the Castle—21 r. Hayes APH M

Stevenson, Robert Louis—Kidnapped—16 r. Gray NIB J

Trollope, Anthony—The Small House at Allington—48 r. Carse NIB D

Walker, Mildred—Winter Wheat—19 r. Hayes APH S

Wellman, Paul I.—The Chain—29 r. Patterson APH J

Winslow, Anne Goodwin—IT WAS LIKE THIS—7 r. Hayes APH D
Young, E.—MISS MOLE—18 r. Young NIB J

COLLECTIONS

Aldrich, Bess Streeter—JOURNEY INTO CHRISTMAS, and Other Stories—10 r. Tyroler APH D
Bleiler, Everett F. *and* T. E. Dikty, *Eds.*—THE BEST SCIENCE FICTION STORIES: 1949—18r. Burt Blackwell APH D
Canby, Henry Seidell *and* Robeson Bailey, *Eds.*—THE BOOK OF THE SHORT STORY—40 r. Meeker APH S
Capek, Karel—THREE NOVELS: Hordubal—Meteor—An Ordinary Life—31 r. Rose AFB S
Runyon, Damon—THE DAMON RUNYON OMNIBUS—36 r. Burt Blackwell APH S

MYSTERY AND DETECTIVE

Blake, Nicholas—MINUTE FOR MURDER—20 r. Lidell NIB J
Chesterton, G. K.—THE WISDOM OF FATHER BROWN—16 r. Engleman NIB J
Cobb, Irvin S.—JUDGE PRIEST TURNS DETECTIVE—15 r. Flournoy APH J
Stout, Rex—THE SECOND CONFESSION—13 r. Patterson APH D
Stout, Rex—TROUBLE IN TRIPILICATE—12 r. James Walton APH S

ADVENTURE AND TRAVEL

Chapman, Wilbert McLeod—FISHING IN TROUBLED WATERS—15 r. —Gladden APH J
Gibbings, Robert—BLUE ANGELS AND WHALES—7 r. Gifford APH M
Helmericks, Constance *and* Harmon—OUR SUMMER WITH THE ESKIMOS—14 r. Clark APH M
Marriott, Alice—THE VALLEY BELOW—15 r. Harrelson AFB D
Millar, George—ISABEL AND THE SEA—23 r. Baskerville APH M
Slocum, Joshua—SAILING ALONE AROUND THE WORLD—24 r. Lidell NIB D

ANTHROPOLOGY

Reyher, Rebecca Hourwich—ZULU WOMAN—19 r. deBrett AFB D

BIOGRAPHY

Allan, Herbert S.—John Hancock: Patriot in Purple—27 r. Gerard APH M

Allen, Frederick Lewis—The Great Pierpont Morgan—17 r. Earl AFB D

Blankfort, Michael—The Big Yankee: The Life of Carlson of the Raiders—25 r. Gladden APH J

Brittain, Fred.—Arthur Quiller-Couch—13 r. Carse NIB D

Burke, Billie *with* Cameron Shipp—With a Feather on My Nose—14 r. Author & Terris AFB D

Calkins, Earnest Elmo—"And Hearing Not—": Annals of an Adman—25 r. Earl APH J

Carr, John Dickson—The Life of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle—26 r. Shelly NIB D

The Autobiography of G. K. Chesterton—22 r. Patterson APH D

Croy, Homer—Jesse James Was My Neighbor—13 r. Metz APH D

Donald, David H.—Lincoln's Herndon—25 r. Buttorff APH M

Fowler, Gene—Beau James: The Life and Times of Jimmy Walker—28 r. Murdock AFB S

Freeman, Douglas Southall—George Washington: The Young Washington—Vol. I—34 r. Vol. II—24 r. Gerard APH D

Hagedorn, Hermann—Prophet in the Wilderness: The Story of Albert Schweitzer—11 r. Clos APH J

Hall, Melvin—Bird of Time—19 r. Flournoy APH D

Hume, Edward H., M.D.—Doctors East, Doctors West: An American Physician's Life in China—14 r. Clark APH M

Ives, Burl—Wayfaring Stranger—12 r. Flournoy APH J

James, Marquis—The Cherokee Strip: An Oklahoma Boyhood—19 r. Burt Blackwell APH D

Lamb, Harold—Genghis Khan: The Emperor of All Men—11 r. Clos APH J

Malone, Dumas—Jefferson: The Virginian—33 r. Clark APH M

Mann, William M.—Ant Hill Odyssey—20 r. Gerard APH J

Mauldin, Bill—A Sort of a Saga—12 r. Metz APH D

Merton, Thomas—The Seven Story Mountain—34 r. Burt Blackwell APH M

Nesbit, Henrietta—White House Diary—19 r. Hayes APH M

Pearson, Hesketh—Dickens: His Character, Comedy & Career—31 r. Meeker APH D

Peterson, Houston, *Ed.*—GREAT TEACHERS: Portrayed by Those Who Studied Under Them—23 r. Gladden APH D

Pretorius, Major P. J.—JUNGLE MAN—14 r. Clark APH J

Roosevelt, Eleanor—THIS I REMEMBER—26 r. Author & Mathews AFB D

Selle, Earl Albert—DONALD OF CHINA—26 r. Livingston Gilbert APH M

Sheean, Vincent—LEAD, KINDLY LIGHT—29 r. Scourby AFB D

Taylor, Robert Lewis—W. C. FIELDS: His Follies and Fortunes—23 r. Donley AFB D

Villiers, Alan—THE SET OF THE SAILS: The Story of a Cape Horn Seaman—18 r. Baskerville APH J

White, Walter—A MAN CALLED WHITE—27 r. Author and Knight AFB J

Wright, Helen—SWEEPER IN THE SKY: The Life of Maria Mitchell —18 r. Flournoy APH D

ESSAYS

Brown, John Mason—MORNING FACES: A Book of Children and Parents—8 r. Lauren Gilbert AFB S

Gannett, Lewis—CREAM HILL: Discoveries of a Weekend Countryman—12 r. Knight AFB S

Huxley, Aldous—JESTING PILATE: An Intellectual Holiday—14 r. Clos APH M

Taber, Gladys—THE BOOK OF STILLMEADOW—13 r. Robinson APH J

GEOGRAPHY

Peattie, Roderick—GEOGRAPHY IN HUMAN DESTINY—13 r. Metz APH D

HISTORY

Barr, Stringfellow—THE PILGRIMAGE OF WESTERN MAN—32 r. Author AFB D

Churchill, Winston—THE GATHERING STORM—19 r. Carse NIB D

Churchill, Winston—THEIR FINEST HOUR—20 r. Carse NIB D

Eisenhower, Dwight D.—CRUSADE IN EUROPE—43 r. Wierum AFB J

Ferguson, Erna—DANCING GODS: Indian Ceremonials of New Mexico and Arizona—14 r. Clos APH S

Hill, Christopher—LENIN AND THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION—12 r. Macleod NIB D

Prescott, W. H.—The Conquest of Mexico: Designed for Modern Reading by Marshall McClintock—23 r. Livingston Gilbert APH J

Sherwood, Robert E.—Roosevelt and Hopkins: An Intimate Hostory—81 r. Author & Murdock AFB M

Trevelyan, G. M.—Garibaldi and the Making of Italy: June-November, 1860—19 r. Carse NIB D

HUMOR

Benchley, Robert—Chips off the Old Benchley—15 r. Metz APH D

Gilbreth, Frank B., Jr. *and* Ernestine Gilbreth Carey—Cheaper by the Dozen—12 r. James Walton APH M

Lasswell, Mary—One on the House—11 r. Burt Blackwell APH D

Streeter, Edward—Father of the Bride—8 r. Murdock AFB D

Turlington, Catherine—Three to Make Ready—12 r. James Walton APH M

MYTHOLOGY

Hamilton, Edith—Mythology—22 r. Hayes APH D

NATURAL SCIENCE

Beebe, William—High Jungle—22 r. Clark APH D

Glesinger, Egon—The Coming Age of Wood—15 r. Clark APH S

Stuart, Frank S.—City of the Bees—13 r. Clark APH S

Teale, Edwin Way—The Lost Woods: Adventures of a Naturalist 15 r. Metz APH J

PHILOSOPHY

Cohen, Morris R.—Studies in Philosophy and Science—17 r. Gerard APH D

Dewey, John—Reconstruction in Philosophy—12 r. Clark APH S

PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED

Chevigny, Hector *and* Sydell Braverman—The Adjustment of the Blind—17 r. Chevigny & Murdock AFB S

Dahl, Borghild—I Wanted to See—11 r. Hayes APH S

Russell, Harold *with* Victor Rosen—Victory in My Hands—14 r. Gladden APH S

POLITICAL SCIENCE

Schlesinger, Arthur M., Jr.—The Vital Center: The Politics of Freedom—18 r. O'Neill AFB S

POST-WAR WORLD

Bradley, David—No Place to Hide—9 r. Clark APH M
Crockett, Lucy Herndon—Popcorn on the Ginza: An Informal Portrait of Post War Japan—15 r. Hayes APH J
Hindus, Maurice—In Search of a Future: Persia, Egypt, Iraq, and Palestine—16 r. Gerard APH D
Lang, Daniel—Early Tales of the Atomic Age—14 r. Gladden APH M

PSYCHOLOGY

Overstreet, H. A.—The Mature Mind—16 r. Donley AFB D

RELIGION

The Holy Bible: King James Version—Scourby AFB
Container I: Genesis—8 r. D
Container IV: Joshua *and* Judges—8 r. D
Container IX: Ezekiel *to* Malachi—17 r. D
Container XI: The Acts *to* Collossians—13 r. J
Container XII: Thessalonians *to* Revelation—10 r. J
Jones, E. Stanley—Mahatma Gandhi: An Interpretation—13 r. Clark APH J
Mencken, H. L.—Treatise on the Gods—19 r. Sidney Walton AFB D

SCIENCE

Ratcliff, J. D., *Ed.*—Science Year Book of 1948—20 r. Gladden APH D
Sarton, George—The Life of Science: Essays in the History of Civilization—13 r. Metz APH D

SOCIAL SCIENCES

Mowbray, Albert H.—Insurance: Its Theory and Practice in the U.S.—48 r. Metz APH J

SPORTS

Marsh, Irving R. *and* Edward Ehre, *Eds.*—Best Sports Stories 1949 22 r. Clark APH D

TRANSPORTATION

Hungerford, Edward—Wells Fargo—16 r. Flournoy APH D
Marshall, James—Santa Fe: The Railroad that Built an Empire—29 r. Flournoy APH M

UNITED STATES

Peattie, Roderick, *Ed.*—The Berkshires: The Purple Hills—20 r. Flournoy APH M

WORLD WAR II

Trumbull, Robert—Silversides—9 r. Gifford APH M
Williams, Eric—The Wooden Horse—19 r. Lidell NIB D

FOREIGN LANGUAGE—FRENCH

Balzac, Honoré de—Eugénie Grandet—15 r. Franc AFB J
Daudet, Alphonse—Tartarin De Tarascon—7 r. Daney AFB J
Dumas, Alexandre—La Tulipe Noire—16 r. Franc AFB J
Dumas, Alexandre—Les Trois Mousquetaires—50 r. Franc AFB J
Flaubert, Gustave—Madame Bovary—27 r. Franc AFB J
Flaubert, Gustave—Un Coeur Simple (A Simple Heart)—6 r. read in French & English by Franc & Scourby AFB J
Grey Owl—Un Homme Et Des Betes—18 r. Franc AFB J
La Fayette, Mme. de—La Princesse De Cleves—12 r. Franc AFB J
Mérimée, Prosper—Carmen—5 r. Franc AFB J
Petite Anthologie De La Poésie Française—10 r. Franc AFB J
Prévost, l'Abbé—Manon Lescaut—13 r. Franc AFB J
Saint Exupéry, Antoine de—Terre Des Hommes—10 r. Franc AFB J
Voltaire, François Marie Arouet de—Candide—7 r. Deneveure AFB J

SPECIAL RELEASES

A Small Volume of Scripture Passages—2 r. Scourby AFB D
Mount of Blessing—9 r. Gladden APH D

PERIODICALS

Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine—January to December, 1950 APH
Reader's Digest—January to December, 1950 APH
Talking Book Topics—March, June, September, December, 1950 AFB

TALKING BOOK READERS 1950

AFB

Stringfellow Barr
Lane Blackwell
John Brewster
Billie Burke
Hector Chevigny
Jacques Daney
Diane deBrett
Jean Denéveure
Barry Doig
Robert Donley
Eugene Earl
Ethel Everett
Hugh Fellows
Robert Franc
Lauren Gilbert
Helen Harrelson
John Knight
Bucky Kozlow
Carmen Mathews
Kate McComb
Kermit Murdock
Eugene O'Neill, Jr.
Emmett Rogers
Eleanor Roosevelt
Norman Rose
Alexander Scourby
Robert E. Sherwood
Norma Terris
Sidney Walton
Walter White
Howard Wierum

APH

James Baskerville
Burt Blackwell
Gerald Buttorff
Paul Clark
Jean Clos
Morris Flournoy
Walter Gerard
Sam Gifford
Livingston Gilbert
William Gladden
Terry Hayes
Kenneth Meeker
Milton Metz
George Patterson
Miriam Robinson
Del Roy
Jan Tyroler
James Walton

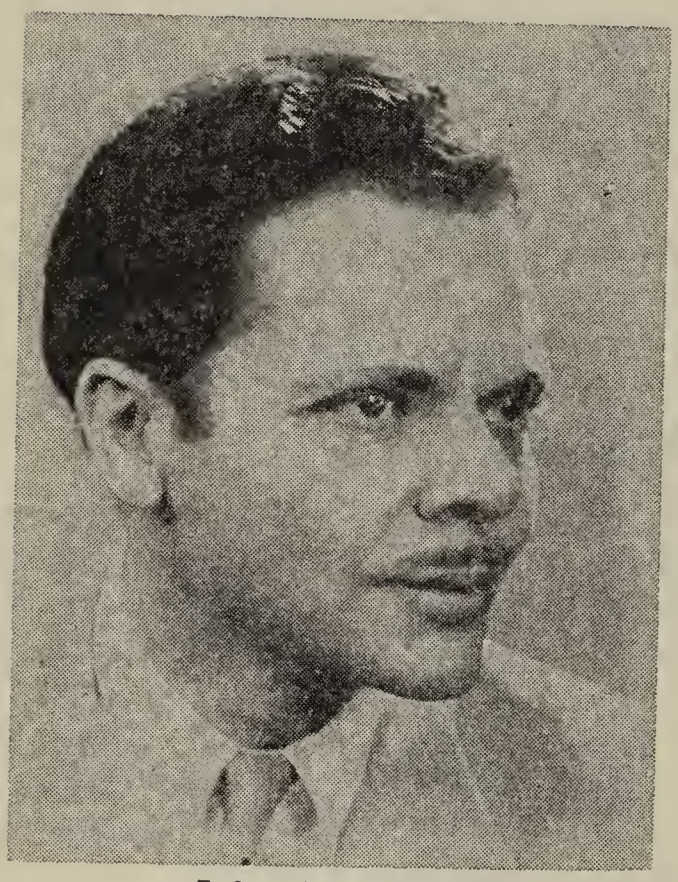
NIB

Duncan Carse
Franklin Engleman
James Gray
Alvar Lidell
Joseph Macleod
Jean Metcalfe
Norman Shelley
Richard Wessel
Gladys Young

March '51

John Brewster

In May of this year John Brewster celebrates his tenth anniversary as a reader of Talking Books for the American Foundation for the Blind. The following article was written by Charles A. Silliman for the BVA Bulletin and is used with his permission.



John Brewster

It is an exciting and extremely satisfying business to try to interpret a book the way the author meant it, says John Brewster. Sort of the feeling that there you are with a book in your hand that someone else has written and now it is up to you alone to express that book to another in the best way you know how. Nevertheless, all the readers at the Foundation are cautioned to stay within the frame of the narrative and not go overboard in their interpretation. Also, he says the research part of the work is very interesting; for example, looking up the correct pronunciation of words and foreign phrases. Once he was confronted with a French phrase which was used only in a certain part of France. For days he searched without success for someone who could tell him how to pronounce it. Finally, he was told that a French woman was operating a little bakery down on 12th street and that she came from that locality. She was able to tell him exactly how to say it. "Many of these people have never heard of Talking Books and when you tell them how a whole book is recorded on records for the blind they are anxious to help you in any way they can," Mr. Brewster said.

John Brewster was born on the West side of New York City and

March 51

is now living with his mother in an apartment on East 64th Street. During his youth he was educated in private schools in the city and spent his summers traveling with his mother in Europe.

Mr. Brewster speaks what he calls "kitchen" Italian which, explained, means that he can talk it well enough to get himself something to eat. He also has a working knowledge of French. While he was in Italy he studied singing in Florence with Mario Ancona; however, now he just sings for his own amusement.

He's been an actor since he was sixteen. Five years were spent in the theatre and eighteen in Radio. He started in Radio in 1930 when there were just a "hand-full" of actors; appearing on such programs as the "Radio Guild," "Scotland Yard" with Basil Rathbone, and currently he is appearing as Dr. Simms in "Stella Dallas" and is frequently heard on the "Ave Maria" program.

On the stage he played in "Lolly," "The Plutocrat" with Mr. and Mrs. Charles Coburn, "The Wild Duck" with Mischa Auer and "Woman of Bronze," with Margaret Anglin.

"Few people remember," he said, "that in those days the Coburns were a great husband and wife team. Then Mrs. Coburn died and later Charles went to Hollywood and came back in his own right."

John Brewster is about five feet nine inches tall and weighs in the neighborhood of 140 pounds. He has brown eyes, brown hair and a moustache. He wears double breasted suits, conservative ties, collects rare books and smokes excessively. When I asked him his age he said with a laugh: "102," adding later that he was in his thirties. His birthday comes on July 8.

One of the experiences Mr. Brewster likes to remember in his life is the first time he ever walked off the stage after a performance in which he had a leading role. "The applause wasn't exactly terrific," he said modestly, "but it was good enough to thrill me such as I had never been thrilled before." Another time was when he was standing on the Ponte Vecchio in Italy for the first time looking over the river Arno in the moonlight and realizing what had been history-book reading of the Italian Renaissance had actually come to life for him.

He doesn't like to remember the time, in the early days of his radio work, when he had to close one program at 9:15 at NBC, which was located then at 56th Street and 5th Avenue, and open one at CBS at 52nd and Madison at the same time. He said he accomplished it by having someone hold the elevator door open and

March 51

someone else keep a taxi waiting out in front while the announcers at each end extended their commercials.

Mr. Brewster has a special liking for Italian food such as veal scallopini and spaghetti. A special recipe for the latter was given to him once by an Italian cook, so now Mr. Brewster claims, whenever he wants a dish, he can whip it up himself.

Some talking books he has read are: "Jean Christophe" by Romain Rolland which he said had the same number of records as "War and Peace," "Of Human Bondage" by Somerset Maugham, "A Shropshire Lad" by A. E. Houseman and so forth. He enjoyed especially doing "Arch of Triumph," and two books by Virginia Woolf named "Flush" (about a dog) and "Between the Acts."

When John Brewster was called in to do his first book ten years ago, he said he got very nervous while recording and decided he'd never be able to do it again, so he quit. However, in May 1941, the Foundation called and asked if he would come and do a book on poetry. Since he was very fond of poetry and had once had a poetry reading program of his own on the radio he said he would. He made a success of it and since then has been recording books steadily.

In closing, he told me in all sincerity how deeply he appreciated the correspondence received from people who had listened to his recorded books. "They are extremely helpful," he said and he has never failed to answer a letter.

March 51

CHECK THE TITLES YOU WISH TO BORROW, DETACH THE LIST AND MAIL IT TO YOUR TALKING BOOK LIBRARY—**NOT TO THE FOUNDATION.**

FOR ADDITIONAL TITLES CONSULT YOUR CATALOGUE OF TALKING BOOKS FOR THE BLIND 1934-1948

~~Compiled by Division for the Blind~~
~~Library of Congress~~

- ☐ Akeley—Rumble of a Distant Drum—21 r. AFB
- ☐ Arnow—Hunter's Horn—39 r. APH
- ☐ Barnett—The Universe and Dr. Einstein—6 r. AFB
- ☐ Beach—The Silver Horde—21 r. APH
- ☐ Bible: Container III: Numbers & Deuteronomy—12 r. AFB
- ☐ Bible: Container VI: I Chronicles to Job—21 r. AFB
- ☐ Bush—Modern Arms and Free Men—17 r. AFB
- ☐ Carmer—Dark Trees to the Wind—16 r. AFB
- ☐ Carr—Below Suspicion—12 r. APH
- ☐ Castor—The Year of the Spaniard—18 r. APH
- ☐ Chapman—Rogue's March—26 r. APH
- ☐ Cooke—Best Detective Stories of the Year 1949—12 r. AFB
- ☐ Costain—The Conquerors—30 r. APH
- ☐ Crispin—Buried for Pleasure—15 r. NIB
- ☐ Cunningham—The Hunter Is the Hunted—12 r. APH
- ☐ Cuppy—How to Attract the Wombat—6 r. APH
- ☐ Day—The Autobiography of Will Rogers—26 r. APH
- ☐ Derleth—The Other Side of the Moon—32 r. AFB
- ☐ Emrich—It's an Old Wild West Custom—14 r. APH
- ☐ Flavin—Black and White—22 r. APH
- ☐ Goudge—Gentian Hill—26 r. AFB
- ☐ Halleran—Prairie Guns—11 r. APH
- ☐ Hedrick—The Land of the Crooked Tree—22 r. APH
- ☐ Kennedy—The Feast—18 r. AFB
- ☐ Lea—The Brave Bulls—15 r. AFB
- ☐ Lederer—All the Ship's at Sea—11 r. AFB
- ☐ Lilienthal—This I Do Believe—9 r. AFB
- ☐ Lofts—Women in the Old Testament—13 r. APH
- ☐ Logan—Cousins and Commissars—11 r. APH

(SEE REVERSE SIDE)

Dr. P. C. Potts

- ☐ Marshall—Mr. Jones, Meet the Master—8 r. APH
- ☐ Mason—Dardanelles Derelict—16 r. APH
- ☐ Mitchell—The Adventures of François—15 r. APH
- ☐ Niebuhr, Reinhold—Faith and History—18 r. APH
- ☐ Parmenter—The Plant in My Window—6 r. AFB
- ☐ Pocock—Red Flannels and Green Ice—18 r. APH
- ☐ Poole—His Family—18 r. APH
- ☐ Schweitzer—Out of My Life and Thought—18 r. AFB
- ☐ Sedges—The Long Love—20 r. APH
- ☐ Seeley—The Beckoning Door—13 r. APH
- ☐ Smith—The Philosophic Way of Life in America—14 r. APH
- ☐ Stettinius—Roosevelt and the Russians—16 r. AFB
- ☐ Waltari—The Egyptian—41 r. AFB
- ☐ Ware—Wealth and Welfare—11 r. APH
- ☐ Wernher—My Indian Son-in-Law—14 r. APH
- ☐ Wilson—The Innocent Traveller—14 r. APH
- ☐ Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine—January, February, March, 1951 APH
- ☐ Reader's Digest—January, February, March, 1951 APH
- ☐ Talking Book Topics—March, 1951 AFB

Dear Librarian: I would like to borrow the titles checked on this list:

READER'S NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE POSTAL UNIT NO.

(SEE REVERSE SIDE)

TALKING BOOK TOPICS

"Books give a deeper meaning and interest to living. There is nothing in daily work, in the most humdrum occupation, that cannot be made more interesting or more useful through books. They are means to proficiency in every calling. They are inexhaustible sources of pleasure. They bring to us the life of the world as it was and as it is now. They supply increased resources. Those able to turn to books for companionship are seldom lonely; nor do they suffer from the need of finding some action, however trivial, to fill an empty hour. They have friends who will come when desired, bringing amusement, counsel, or some absorbing confidence; friends who, unlike the human variety, may be dismissed when their conversation palls and who may be chosen to suit whatever mood or interest is uppermost."—HELEN E. HAINES, Living with Books.

VOL. XVII, NO. 2 JUNE, 1951

Issued Quarterly by the

AMERICAN FOUNDATION *for the* BLIND, INC.

15 WEST 16TH STREET • NEW YORK 11, N. Y.

Entered as second-class matter June 11, 1936, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of August 24, 1912.

Talking Book Topics

VOL. XVII, NO. 2 JUNE, 1951

The American Foundation for the Blind is a national agency the purpose of which is to promote increasingly and uncompromisingly the interests of all the blind throughout the United States, in close cooperation with all local organizations.

TALKING BOOK TOPICS is issued by the Foundation in inkprint, and in Talking Book form, four times a year—in March, June, September, and December. A printed copy is sent to all readers, free of charge, to aid you in requesting titles from your regular distributing library. There is a subscription price of $1 a year for the recorded edition.

If you can afford the yearly subscription price of $1 in order to receive the magazine in recorded form, please tear out the coupon in this issue, have it filled in, and mail it to the Talking Book Department of the American Foundation for the Blind, 15 West 16th Street, New York 11, New York, accompanied by your remittance.

Enclosed find the sum of $1.00 to cover one year's subscription for the recorded edition of TALKING BOOK TOPICS. Please send this magazine to:

SUBSCRIBER'S NAME .....

STREET ADDRESS .....

CITY .....

POSTAL UNIT NO. .....

STATE .....

TIPS FROM TOPICS

From time to time, Talking Book Topics will carry some important *DO'S* and *DON'TS* to be observed in playing your Talking Books. Here are a few for this issue:

1. *DON'T* forget to check your container for the package of needles, supplied by your library, when you first receive a book, if you use a machine which requires a needle change after every record. These machines are any which do not have an "R", "S" or "T" designation in the serial number, if you have a Government model reproducer. If you have a machine from the Foundation or any other source approved by the Library of Congress, check with that source by postcard to make sure you are using the correct needle. *ALL* models, however, *do* have provision for changing needles, and it is better to resort to this practice than to use a semi-permanent needle too long. Most semi-permanent needles will last for approximately 200 playings, but if your machine does not seem to be reproducing as well as it did originally, change needles, by all means.

2. *DO* make sure your librarian is supplying the needle currently recommended by the Bureau of Standards. All libraries should have a supply on hand. If not, they are available.

3. *DON'T* play a record all the way through if it seems to sound wrong when it first starts. "Wrong" can mean: so much surface scratch that the voice of the reader cannot be heard distinctly; an echo reading along with the reader (sometimes this can be corrected by starting the record over again, in case the needle did not get started in the groove properly); the needle jumping out of the groove (please *DON'T* try to correct this condition by

pressing down on the pick-up arm or by weighting it down in any way. The present-day machines, the "R", "S" and "T" models are all equipped with lightweight arms, and the other models are being equipped with lighter arms when they go into Federal repair for service).

4. *DO* check your needle with your finger tip before starting the record to make sure it does not feel chipped.
5. *DON'T* straighten the needle if the one on your machine is bent. Some models were equipped with a bent shank needle.
6. *DO* notify your librarian right away if you receive a book which does not play properly . . . . . and in all cases:

IF IN DOUBT, CHANGE NEEDLES

NEW TALKING BOOKS

The following Talking Books, recently recorded for the Library of Congress, may now be borrowed from your regular distributing library.

AFB—*American Foundation for the Blind, New York.*

APH—*American Printing House for the Blind, Louisville, Kentucky.*

FICTION

Amory, Cleveland—HOME TOWN *(Harper, 1950)*—15 records —read by Barry Doig AFB

Mitch Hickok knew how to keep his feet on the ground, even if he did live in an Arizona town that perched on a mountainside. Mitch's book of home-town impressions probably didn't amount to much, but an influential friend of the family persuaded the publisher to push it. Brought to New York as an important new author, Mitch

disconcerted everyone by remaining completely unimpressed by all the fanfare, ballyhoo, and pseudo-sophistication. The story is a satire on publishing promotion.

Annixter, Paul—SWIFTWATER *(Wyn, 1950)*—11 records—read by Milton Metz APH

A refreshing, heartwarming story of backwoods life in an isolated village in the north woods of Maine. Cam Calloway and his son Bucky are the last trappers of the village; they are able to suffer the ill will of neighbors because of their fine relationship with each other and their awareness of the power and enchantment of the wilderness. Bucky proves his manhood in the dramatic killing of the wolverine which was stealing from his traps, and also realizes his dream, the establishment of a sanctuary for wild geese.

Barnes, Margaret Campbell—BRIEF GAUDY HOUR *(Macrae-Smith, 1949)*—21 records—read by Kay Parker AFB

The oft-told tale of Anne Boleyn, the girl who played hard to get and thereby changed the course of England's history. As in her previous novels of the Plantagenet-Tudor period, the author gives a controversial heroine sympathetic treatment, and makes the reader see historic personages as human beings. Anne is not idealized nor justified, but presented as a woman whose motives and behavior are understandable in the light of her early personal tragedy.

Bonavia-Hunt, D. A.—PEMBERLEY SHADES *(Dutton, 1949)*—19 records—read by James Baskerville APH

An English author has attempted an ambitious project—a sequel to *Pride and Prejudice*. Although Jane Austen's devotees may pick some flaws, such as a more emphatic tone and less subtlety, the verisimilitude seems remarkable. Elizabeth and Mr. Darcy, happily married for several years, entertain relatives and friends at Pemberley, the redoubtable Lady Catherine de Bourgh invites herself, and the usual circumspect social life and matchmaking go on, with a villain in the shape of an impostor posing as a clergyman. Mrs. Bennet does not appear, but in the end another of her daughters has made a suitable match and Anne de Bourgh has escaped from her mother's control by an elopement.

Burman, Ben Lucien—EVERYWHERE I ROAM *(Doubleday, 1949)*—15 records—read by Burt Blackwell APH

"Big towns is for big-town people. You're a little fellow like I told you." Captain Asa heard these words without believing them, just as he refused to believe that the journey from his home in the Tennessee hills would not eventually lead him to the good life of the old days. When, on their travels, the young people of his family deserted him, one by one, for interests of their own, he was forced to reconsider his notions. This Odyssean tale has the quality of folklore, though the time is the present and the setting the rapidly industrialized South. The characters sustain the story's interest. A loosely constructed plot and an abrupt ending are its main defects.

Clark, Walter Van Tilburg—THE TRACK OF THE CAT *(Random House, 1949)*—29 records—read by Robert Donley AFB

In spite of its length this novel has a very simple plot—the effect of a panther on the eight people on an isolated mountain ranch in the space of a few winter days. There is, however, an imaginary panther as well as the real one, and each is the cause of death of a member of the ranch family. The cat that actually attacks the herd and is hunted by two brothers kills the brother who has been most susceptible to the tales told by an old Indian about a black phantom cat, while the brother who has scoffed loudest at the tales falls prey to the phantom. The presence of the animal, real or imaginary, also brings to a climax other conflicts in the household and exposes the character and emotions of all involved.

Dostoyevsky, Fyodor—CRIME AND PUNISHMENT—Translated by Constance Garnett *(Modern Library No. 199)*—36 records—read by Alexander Scourby

A powerful psychological study revolving about one incident, the murder of an old woman money lender by a student whose mind has been obsessed by the deed for so long that he is forced to commit it. The story of his remorse, confession, and regeneration follows.

Du Maurier, Daphne—THE PARASITES *(Doubleday, 1949)*—23 records—read by Kay Parker APH

When Maria's husband stated he wanted a divorce and called her and her half-brother and half-sisters parasites it shocked them into a recapitulation of their lives, their own errors and their parents'. The elder Delaneys had been famous, she as a dancer, he a singer, and they led the unreal, migratory lives of artists, their children at home in theaters but not in schools. The three had each a spark of talent, but not the parents' genius; Maria was an actress, riding to success on her name, Niall a musician who took the easy way of composing catchy tunes, Celia was a frustrated artist tied by home cares.

Gelfan, Lewis—THE EMBROIDERED CITY *(Little, Brown, 1950)*—24 records—read by Livingston Gilbert APH

A novel of Americans in China, meeting and trying to outwit the venial officials and soldiers in a small river city who were holding large stocks of rice, while the people were dying of starvation. Profits were endangered when a ship arrived with UNRRA flour, to be distributed by a conceited American businessman and a girl with good intentions but no experience. A cynical young vice consul, a life-long resident of China, had his hands full as he tried to circumvent his fellow Americans' troublemaking benevolence while doing his own job of assessing the city's chances of holding off the Communists.

James, Henry—THE PORTRAIT OF A LADY *(Modern Library No. 107)*—41 records—read by John Knight AFB

The motives that lead Isabel Archer, a New England girl who inherits an English fortune, to refuse other suitors and marry Gilbert Osmond are skillfully analyzed and her subsequent disillusionment is traced in detail.

Llewellyn, Richard—A FEW FLOWERS FOR SHINER *(Macmillan, 1950)*—26 records—read by Morris Flournoy APH

In the last weeks of the war in Italy a Cockney truck driver named Snowy secures a few days leave to visit the grave of his mate

Shiner, killed when Rosie, the truck, struck a mine. Snowy, fresh from hospital, hopes to make the trip alone in the beloved, patched-up truck, but first a new mate, a Lancashire man, is thrust on him; as the two travel southward they pick up an American AWOL, an American-born Italian princess, a group of stranded, impoverished university professors with their families, give material aid to a whole village, help break up a gang of black-marketeering thieves, and encounter so many other adventures that the simple pilgrimage becomes an odyssey.

Marshall, Bruce—To Every Man a Penny *(Houghton Mifflin, 1949)*—24 records—read by Walter Gerard APH

For 35 years abbé Gaston serves in a Parisian workingman's parish, helping people by his sincere faith and his own brand of inspired kindness and gentleness. He takes part in both world wars, suffering a permanent injury to a knee in the first, watches governments and styles change, and spends an interlude in South America. In all circumstances and places he looks for the best in people and finds it. The quiet, often whimsical humor running through the book matches the priest's character.

Perkins, J. R.—The Emperor's Physician *(Bobbs-Merrill, 1944)*—19 records—read by John Brewster APH

The novel shows the effect of Jesus' miracles and teachings on two physicians sent by Tiberius Caesar to investigate the spread of disease in Palestine. At first skeptical of the ability of the healer from Galilee, they gradually recognize his unusual power, and the more cynical and materialistic of the two is completely won over to Jesus. Creditable re-creation of the life of the period.

Roberts, Elizabeth Madox—A Buried Treasure *(Viking, 1931)*—13 records—read by Kate McComb APH

A kettle of gold found buried in an old tree stump brought sudden visions of affluence to Andy Blair and his wife, and, above all, happy anticipations of surprising and dazzling the neighbors. The story, written in a lightly humorous vein, tells what happened in the next few days.

Thirkell, Angela—THE OLD BANK HOUSE *(Knopf, 1949)*—24 records—read by Carmen Mathews AFB

The latest gossip from Barchester brings Thirkell readers up to date on the affairs of many old friends. The rector's elder children are settled in life, many babies are imminent, several engagements are announced, conversations turn sooner or later to rationing and the misdeeds of the government, and Miss Sowerby wages genteel warfare with Lady Norton over an ugly plant. The sensation of the year is the sale of Miss Sowerby's house to nouveau riche Sam Adams, who surprises everybody by being a very good sort, and by deciding to give the house the mistress it needs.

Walker, David—GEORDIE *(Houghton Mifflin, 1950)*—7 records —read by Burt Blackwell APH

Geordie is only a wee Scot, but determination and a body-building course make him champion shot-putter. He takes over his father's place as gamewarden on an estate, goes to America and wins the shot-putting championship in the Boston Olympics, charms the Americans, meets the President, and is almost entangled with a designing Swedish girl but returns safely to his sweetheart Hean and his place at home. Told in a gentle, sympathetic manner that turns a rather simple plot into a warm and believable tale.

White, Nelia Gardner—THE PINK HOUSE *(Viking, 1950)*—17 records—read by Terry Hayes APH

When John Dickinson brought home his baby son, Paul, his wife Rose agreed to bring the child up as her own, but her motives were not kindly. John's infidelity was an affront to her self-esteem, and she intended to make everyone around her pay for that, Paul most of all. The more disdainfully Rose treated him, the more necessary it became to Paul to win her approval, and by the time the boy was grown he had developed a deep-seated neurosis. Brusque Aunt Poll did what she could, but the ultimate cure was wrought by Norah, Rose's crippled niece, who tells the story in her somewhat precious style.

Wilson, Dorothy Clarke—PRINCE OF EGYPT *(Westminster, 1949)*—28 records—read by Norman Rose AFB

This version of the story of Moses is an engrossing tale of intrigue and adventure which will appeal to readers who like historical novels, and may offend religious readers who do not like factual explanations of miracles. Moses is seen as a nonconformist, with an inquiring mind and an instinctive sympathy for the underdog. When he openly allied himself with the Hebrews and discovered their traditions, he found his life's purpose—to help his people achieve the free and equal status which was their right as beings made in the image of God. Frequent references are made to Egyptian history 50 years earlier, the period covered by *The Egyptian (AFB, March, 1951)*.

Wilson, Mitchell—LIVE WITH LIGHTNING *(Little, Brown, 1949)* —40 records—read by Kenneth Meeker APH

A physicist learns for himself the agreeable and disagreeable features of working in colleges, for industry, and for the government, and the difficulties of achieving success while maintaining his self-respect. Erik starts his career as a tremendously ambitious young research fellow in nuclear physics at Columbia in the early depression years. A friend's encounter with bigotry sends Erik from the academic world to research in industry but this ends with a contretemps over an invention just as the government is quietly enlisting nuclear physicists for work that results in the atomic bomb. With the onset of loyalty investigations a return to college work is imminent since it seems to offer greatest freedom for research. Erik's private life is beset by a conflict between love and need for his wife and for a woman physicist.

MYSTERY AND DETECTIVE

Nelson, Hugh Lawrence—DEAD GIVEAWAY *(Rinehart, 1950)*—10 records—read by William Gladden APH

Captain Steve Johnson returns to the San Francisco Homicide Bureau after his sojourn in Colorado and is put in charge of the Policeman's Ball. He has strict instructions from his chief to stay out of trouble—especially murder. Steve's first act is to meet "Giveaway Gates," the MC of a giveaway show which is to provide the

party's chief entertainment. He arranges to meet Gates at the Elysium Hall where the Ball is to take place. And so he does. But Gates, having been strangled by piano wire, is very dead at the moment of meeting. That isn't good for entertaining, so, willy-nilly, Steve is again in murder up to his ears.

BIOGRAPHY

Belin, Jean —SECRETS OF THE SÛRETÉ: The Memoirs of Commissioner Jean Belin *(Putnam, 1950)*—17 records—read by Walter Gerard APH

A former commissioner of the French Sûreté describes his career as a law enforcement officer. When he joined its ranks the Sûreté was a new agency, resented by local police; when he resigned, at the request of the Vichy government, it was as well known as Scotland Yard or the F.B.I. In spite of the title, there is no revelation of startling secrets; rather a deprecating, matter-of-fact account of some of his more publicized cases. American readers will be struck by the likenesses between Belin and fictional French detectives in regard to ethical standards and methods of detection.

Oursler, Fulton *and* Will Oursler—FATHER FLANAGAN OF BOYS TOWN *(Doubleday, 1949)*—18 records—read by Bucky Kozlow AFB

A simply written account of Father Flanagan's life from his childhood on an Irish farm through the long years of study for the priesthood and the 30 odd years of service first in a hotel for homeless men and then as founder and director of Boys Town. Included are stories of many boys admitted there, unwanted waifs from wretched environments, no more than twenty percent of whom were ever court cases. The Ourslers, father and son, knew Father Flanagan personally and have written as fellow idealists.

Tharp, Louise Hall—THE PEABODY SISTERS OF SALEM *(Little, Brown, 1950)*—25 records—read by Kate McComb AFB

The Peabody sisters were interesting individuals themselves but of greater importance in their story was their association with the literary and educational leaders of nineteenth-century New Eng-

land. In this account all these personages are treated with the intimacy of a respectable gossip column. Elizabeth, the oldest sister and the indomitable educator, is admired for her unfailing vitality. Mary is appreciated for her calm steadiness as well as for her role as Horace Mann's second wife, but Mrs. Tharp is partial to the delicate Sophia, the youngest, who became the wife of Nathaniel Hawthorne.

Van Doren, Mark—NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE *(American Men of Letter Series: William Sloane Associates, 1949)*—17 records—read by John Brewster APH

The most illuminating and entertaining of recent Hawthorne biographies, this is an attractive picture of the man as he is revealed through his writings. Biographical data is present, but not obtrusive; it is Hawthorne's personality and mind that are remembered.

ESSAYS

Espey, John J.—THE OTHER CITY *(Knopf, 1949)*—12 records—read by Howard Wierum AFB

As in his earlier book *Minor Heresies (AFB, 1945)*, the author draws on youthful memories for these diverting essays. The Espey children were assured of their superiority to all who hadn't had the good fortune to be born American, missionary, or Presbyterian, but it was their claim to the unique distinction of being born in Shanghai that really entitled them to a place among the immortals.

HISTORY

Kohn, Hans—THE TWENTIETH CENTURY: A Midway Account of the Western World *(Macmillan, 1949)*—15 records—read by Kermit Murdock AFB

The author continues his investigation of general trends in modern history by tracing the fate of nationalism in the twentieth century and the development of imperialism, racialism, fascism, and communism. He regards the Atlantic Pact as the right and practicable step toward necessary cooperation among nations.

Smith, Howard K.—THE STATE OF EUROPE *(Knopf, 1949)*—28 records—read by Sidney Walton AFB

The United States is included in a historical-political survey of Europe during the four postwar years. Developments are interpreted country by country by a radio commentator who castigates both Russia and the U.S. and the countries in each camp for taking the short range view of selfish national interest rather than planning and organizing for a united world. Forceful, often dramatized writing.

HUMOR

Perelman, S. J.—LISTEN TO THE MOCKING BIRD *(Simon & Schuster, 1949)*—9 records—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

"Since you are silly enough to be wasting your time reading this description of Sid Perelman's new book instead of reading the book itself," say the publishers, "you'll get short shrift here. For longer shrift, refer to the book itself which is no funnier than Perelman's last one. That's not possible. It's merely as funny. It's a new collection of his pieces with such tantalizing titles as: *The Sweeter the Tooth, the Nearer the Couch, Don't Bring me Oscars (When It's Shoesies That I Need), and Great Aches from Little Boudoirs Grow.*"

PHILOSOPHY

Schweitzer, Albert—THE PHILOSOPHY OF CIVILIZATION—Translated by C. T. Campion *(Macmillan, 1950)*—24 records—read by Kermit Murdock AFB

The first American printing, and the first one-volume edition, of both parts: Part I, *The Decay and the Restoration of Civilization,* and Part II, *Civilization and Ethics.* In this work Schweitzer maintains that real civilization must have an ethical basis, and explains his own philosophy.

PSYCHOLOGY

Lorand, Sandor, M.D., *Ed.*—PSYCHOANALYSIS TODAY: The Modern Approach to Human Problems—Foreword by Smith Ely Jelliffe, M.D. *(International Universities Press, 1944)*—33 records—read by William Gladden APH

This book, consisting of the contributions of twenty-nine eminent psychiatrists and psychoanalysts, is a survey depicting the development and progress of psychoanalytic research and its contribution to scientific thought up to the present.

RELIGION

THE HOLY BIBLE (King James Version)—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

Old Testament:

Container II:

The Second Book of Moses, called EXODUS—7 records
The Third Book of Moses, called LEVITICUS—5 records

Container V:

The Book of RUTH—1 record
The First Book of SAMUEL, Otherwise Called the First Book of the Kings—5 records
The Second Book of SAMUEL, Otherwise Called the Second Book of the Kings—4 records
The First Book of the KINGS, Commonly Called the Third Book of the Kings—5 records
The Second Book of the KINGS, Commonly Called the Fourth Book of the Kings—5 records

Container VIII:

The Book of the Prophet ISAIAH—7 records
The Book of the Prophet JEREMIAH—8 records
The LAMENTATIONS of Jeremiah—1 record

NOTE: *Records of the Bible may be purchased by blind individuals for 25 cents each, plus postage, by sending your order with remittance to: The American Bible Society, Blind Department, 450 Park Avenue, New York 22, N. Y. Do not send your order to the Foundation.*

Peale, Norman Vincent—A Guide to Confident Living *(Prentice-Hall, 1948)*—14 records—read by Walter Gerard APH

Analysis of ministry which has helped hundreds of people secure release from their worries through inspirational church and clinical services. Many of the ideas require no assistance to put into practice, so that distraught readers will probably welcome the book.

UNITED STATES

Myers, John Myers—The Last Chance: Tombstone's Early Years *(Dutton, 1950)*—15 records—read by Paul Clark APH

Tombstone, Arizona was once the biggest, toughest, most promising city between San Antonio, Texas and the Pacific Coast. This account of the great days of the lawless silver town, an epitome of the American frontier, is a fast-moving, judicious history, full of intrigue, violence, murder, robbery and exploding weapons, insulting editorials, accusations and threats, gambling, hard liquor and girls of easy virtue.

SPECIAL RELEASE

We have been informed by the Library for the Blind of the New York Public Library that they have been sent the following records for circulation to Talking Book borrowers. This information did not reach us in time to find out if they are in all the other libraries as well, but the probability is that they are and for that reason we are including them in the check list on the last page.

Friday Evening Service of the Congregation Adath Israel of Louisville, Kentucky (provided by the Adath Israel Sisterhood)—1 record APH

SERMONS BY THE REV. DONALD GREY BARNHOUSE: 1932—8 records

Contents: *How God Saves Men: God's Part; How God Saves Men: Faith; How God Does Not Save Men; God's Workmanship; The Purpose of the New Creation; What Are We?; What God Does in Us; The Ministry of Suffering.*

SPECIAL NOTICE

The New York Guild for the Jewish Blind asks us to announce that, with the help of a SELF TEACHING MUSIC METHOD, recorded by R.C.A. Victor, to be used on the Talking Book machine, instruction is provided for playing simple, non-professional fun instruments, such as the song-flute or ocarina. After mastering either of these, the approach to the xylophone, zither, or even the piano would be the same.

Braille directions accompany each album set of three 10-inch records.

The records have been planned to reach all music lovers in the home who lack opportunity to study with a teacher. No previous knowledge of music is necessary. The recording is timed so slowly that each tone can easily be matched while one plays. As a result of the "ear training" accomplished through constant repetition of numbered tones of the scale, "song-tunes" will be learned without difficulty. Then the records should be used only to check accuracy.

SELF TEACHING MUSIC RECORDS are distributed by the New York Guild for the Jewish Blind, 1880 Broadway, New York 23, N. Y. They will be sent, postpaid, upon receipt of $1.35 for the complete set.

Through the generosity of the Fred Gretsch Manufacturing Company, either a song-flute or ocarina will accompany the records without charge. However, this free offer will be limited to the present supply.

DOROTHY CANFIELD FISHER

Reprinted by permission from the Publishers' Weekly, February 24, 1951

Dorothy Canfield Fisher, who recently retired from the board of judges of the Book-of-the-Month Club after 25 years of service, was given the 1951 Constance Lindsay Skinner Award of the Women's National Book Association on February 16 at a reception held in the Grand Ballroom of the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in New York. The award, established in 1940, in honor of Constance Lindsay Skinner, editor and writer, is made each year to a woman in recognition of an "outstanding contribution to the book world."

Few women have participated so fully in the book world as Mrs. Fisher. She is a novelist, translator, educator and critic. She was one of the original members of the board of judges when the Book-of-the-Month Club was established in 1926.

Mrs. Fisher was born in Lawrence, Kansas, in 1879. Her father, James Hulme Canfield, was then professor of sociology at the University of Kansas. She was educated in this country and in France, and received her A.B. degree from Ohio State University during her father's administration as president of the university. She did graduate work at the Sorbonne and at Columbia University, planning a career as a teacher of modern languages. In 1907, however, she gave this up to marry John R. Fisher. The young couple went to live on one of the Canfield family's farms in Arlington, Vermont, where she still makes her home. Two of her husband's classmates at Columbia later became the publishers of most of Mrs. Fisher's books, Alfred Harcourt and Donald Brace. They were at Holt when her first successful novel, *The Squirrel Cage,* was published in 1912.

In Rome, in the winter of 1913, Mrs. Fisher became interested in Dr. Montessori's work in child training. On her re-

turn home, she wrote a book about her methods, *A Montessori Mother.* This brought in so many letters from parents that she had to write another book as a sort of blanket answer to them, *Mothers and Children. The Bent Twig,* one of her best known novels, appeared in 1915, followed by the well-known juvenile, *Understood Betsy.*

In 1915, Mr. Fisher joined the American Volunteer Ambulance organization, serving with the French Army until the end of the war. Mrs. Fisher and her children, Sally and Jimmy, accompanied him to France, where Mrs. Fisher worked in behalf of soldiers, blinded in combat, who were in need of braille books. At that time machines for making these books were available only in America. A few were imported and, under Mrs. Fisher's direction, the production of braille books in quantity was begun. Later, in 1918, at the request of the American Red Cross, she organized a convalescent home for children.

Returning home in 1919, she was appointed the only woman member of the State Board of Education of Vermont. She also returned to her writing. *The Brimming Cup* was published in 1921. The next two years were devoted to the work of a translation from the Italian of Papini's *Life of Christ.* Published in 1923, this book has sold more than 300,000 copies in this country alone. *The Deepening Stream* appeared in 1930 and *Seasoned Timber* in 1939. Her latest adult book is *Four Square,* published by Harcourt, Brace in 1949.

Editor's Note: "Four Square," a collection of some of Mrs. Fisher's finest stories, has been recorded by Kate McComb in the studios of the American Foundation for the Blind and will be released later in the year by the American Printing House for the Blind, which is doing the pressing. Other works of Mrs. Fisher available on Talking Book records are "A Basque Windfall," read by Grace Coppin in the collection, "Modern American Short Stories," (AFB, 1937); and "Seasoned Timber," (35 r., read by Lauren Gilbert, AFB, 1942). Mrs. Fisher writes under her maiden name, Dorothy Canfield.

CHECK THE TITLES YOU WISH TO BORROW, DETACH THE LIST AND MAIL IT TO YOUR TALKING BOOK LIBRARY—**NOT TO THE FOUNDATION.**

FOR ADDITIONAL TITLES CONSULT YOUR CATALOGUE OF TALKING BOOKS FOR THE BLIND 1934-1948

Compiled by Division for the Blind
Library of Congress

- ☐ Amory—Home Town—15 r. AFB
- ☐ Annixter—Swiftwater—11 r. APH
- ☐ Barnes—Brief Gaudy Hour—21 r. AFB
- ☐ Belin—Secrets of the Surete—17 r. APH
- ☐ Bonavia-Hunt—Pemberley Shades—19 r. APH
- ☐ Burman—Everywhere I Roam—15 r. APH
- ☐ Clark—The Track of the Cat—29 r. AFB
- ☐ Dostoyevsky—Crime and Punishment—36 r. AFB
- ☐ Du Maurier—The Parasites—23 r. APH
- ☐ Espey—The Other City—12 r. AFB
- ☐ Friday Evening Service of the Congregation Adath Israel—1 r. APH
- ☐ Gelfan—The Embroidered City—24 r. APH
- ☐ James—The Portrait of a Lady—41 r. AFB
- ☐ Kohn—The Twentieth Century—15 r. AFB
- ☐ Llewellyn—A Few Flowers for Shiner—26 r. APH
- ☐ Lorand—Psychoanalysis Today—33 r. APH
- ☐ Marshall—To Every Man a Penny—24 r. APH
- ☐ Myers—The Last Chance: Tombstone's Early Years—15 r. APH
- ☐ Nelson—Dead Giveaway—10 r. APH
- ☐ Oursler—Father Flanagan of Boys Town—18 r. AFB
- ☐ Peale—A Guide to Confident Living—14 r. APH
- ☐ Perelman—Listen to the Mocking Bird—9 r. AFB
- ☐ Perkins—The Emperor's Physician—19 r. APH
- ☐ Roberts—A Buried Treasure—13 r. APH

(see reverse side)

RECEIVED

1951

K. F. G.

Dr. P. C. Potts

- ☐ Schweitzer—The Philosophy of Civilization—24 r. AFB
- ☐ Sermons by the Rev. Donald Grey Barnhouse—8 r.
- ☐ Smith—The State of Europe—28 r. AFB
- ☐ Tharp—The Peabody Sisters of Salem—25 r. AFB
- ☐ Thirkell—The Old Bank House—24 r. AFB
- ☐ Van Doren—Nathaniel Hawthorne—17 r. APH
- ☐ Walker—Geordie—7 r. APH
- ☐ White—The Pink House—17 r. APH
- ☐ Wilson—Prince of Egypt—28 r. AFB
- ☐ Wilson—Live with Lightning—40 r. APH
- ☐ Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine—April, May, June, 1951 APH
- ☐ Reader's Digest—April, May, June, 1951 APH
- ☐ Talking Book Topics—March, June, 1951 AFB

Dear Librarian: I would like to borrow the titles checked on this list:

READER'S NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE POSTAL UNIT NO.

(SEE REVERSE SIDE)

TALKING BOOK TOPICS

VOL. XVII, NO. 3 SEPTEMBER, 1951

Issued Quarterly by the

AMERICAN FOUNDATION *for the* BLIND, Inc.

15 WEST 16th STREET • NEW YORK 11, N. Y.

Entered as second-class matter June 11, 1936, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of August 24, 1912.

Talking Book Topics

VOL. XVII, NO. 3 SEPTEMBER, 1951

The American Foundation for the Blind is a national agency the purpose of which is to promote increasingly and uncompromisingly the interests of all the blind throughout the United States, in close cooperation with all local organizations.

TALKING BOOK TOPICS is issued by the Foundation in inkprint, and in Talking Book form, four times a year—in March, June, September, and December. A printed copy is sent to all readers, free of charge, to aid you in requesting titles from your regular distributing library. There is a subscription price of $1 a year for the recorded edition.

If you can afford the yearly subscription price of $1 in order to receive the magazine in recorded form, please tear out the coupon in this issue, have it filled in, and mail it to the Talking Book Department of the American Foundation for the Blind, 15 West 16th Street, New York 11, New York, accompanied by your remittance.

Enclosed find the sum of $1.00 to cover one year's subscription for the recorded edition of TALKING BOOK TOPICS. Please send this magazine to:

SUBSCRIBER'S NAME _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

POSTAL UNIT NO. _____

STATE _____

NEW TALKING BOOKS

The following Talking Books, recorded for the Library of Congress, may now be borrowed from your regular distributing library.

AFB—American Foundation for the Blind, New York, N. Y.

APH—American Printing House for the Blind, Louisville, Kentucky.

NIB—National Institute for the Blind, London, England.

FICTION

Arkell, Reginald—Old Herbaceous *(Harcourt, Brace, 1951)* —8 records—read by Noel Leslie AFB

Pleasantly sentimental story of the wholehearted devotion of a gardener to the English estate garden in which he worked for 60 years. Indirectly Herbert Pinnegar was also devoted to the garden's owner, a lady who shared his enthusiasm.

Arnold, Edwin Lester—Phra the Phoenician *(Chatto & Windus, 1890)*—28 records—read by John Brewster AFB

A fantastic story that recounts the adventures of Phra through recurring existences extending from the earliest Phoenician period to the times of Queen Elizabeth.

Bristow, Gwen—Jubilee Trail *(Crowell, 1950)*—44 records—read by George Patterson APH

Outwardly Garnet was as demure as any well-brought-up young lady in New York in 1845, but her adventurous soul rebelled at the prospect of living decorously for a whole lifetime. When Oliver Hale proposed a combination honeymoon and trading trip to the fabulous and almost unknown land of California, Garnet accepted eagerly. She had a gift for making friends, and the two who stood her in the greatest stead after Oliver's death were his partner John Ives and Florinda, the notorious dance-hall girl with a heart of

gold. A long but colorful novel which re-creates vividly the arduous journey over the Santa Fe trail and the crudeness of the early California settlements.

Bromfield, Louis—EARLY AUTUMN *(Stokes, 1926)*—20 records —read by John Knight APH

The Pentland family and the Pentland tradition are made alive in this story of life in a small New England town. The atmosphere and environment in which Olivia lived because she had married a Pentland are portrayed with art and imagination. Some connection is maintained with *The Green Bay Tree (AFB, 1949)* and *Possession (AFB, 1950)* through young Jean de Cyon, Lily's son and Sabine Callendar. The author calls these three novels panels in a presentation of contemporary American life.

Cather, Willa—ONE OF OURS *(Knopf, 1922)*—20 records—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

Life on the broad Nebraska prairies, his years at college and his marriage all failed to enable Claude Wheeler to realize life as the great and beautiful thing he believed it must be. With the first World War he found an outlet for his ideals and his energy.

Colver, Alice Ross—THE PARSON *(Macrae Smith, 1951)*—16 records—read by John Knight AFB

A minister in a New York suburb arouses the disfavor of some of his parishioners when he champions a new high school teacher whose ideas on teaching social science are not acceptable to some of the townsmen even though the students are enthusiastic. The minister loses his parish but the teacher is asked to stay after a successful union church service that has been the lifelong dream of the minister.

Costain, Thomas B.—SON OF A HUNDRED KINGS: A Novel of the Nineties *(Doubleday, 1950)*—35 records—read by John Brewster AFB

A long novel, which works out in detail the affairs of many people, but mainly involves Ludar Redcraft. With a sign on his back, and

not a penny in his pocket, six-year-old Ludar journeyed from England to Canada, like a parcel which has been wrongly addressed to prevent its return to the sender. For years the rumor persisted that Ludar was the rightful heir to money and a title; even after this had been disproved, Ludar was recognized as someone special, and it was no surprise when he started on what would obviously become a distinguished career, and won the wealthy girl who had loved him since childhood.

Crawford, F. Marion—In the Palace of the King *(Macmillan, 1900)*—17 records—read by Morris Flournoy APH

Madrid in 1574. This exciting love and adventure story (covering a period of hours—not years!) is written around Don John of Austria's secret marriage at a time when his half-brother, Philip II of Spain, had schemes for his marrying Mary, Queen of Scots.

Goudge, Elizabeth—A City of Bells *(1936)*—22 records—read by Arthur Bush NIB

The setting is an English cathedral town, and the story is dominated by the spirit of the old town and the quaintness of life in the cathedral precincts. A somewhat forced plot centers about the old canon's grandson who, living in the house once occupied by an unhappy poet, meets him in spirit, completes his unfinished work, and finally brings him back to rebuild his life.

Guareschi, Giovanni—The Little World of Don Camillo—Translated by Una Vincenzo Troubridge *(Pellegrini & Cudahy, 1950)*—8 records—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

Childlike simplicity and impish humor mark these tales of Don Camillo, parish priest in a village of northern Italy, who is more than usually beset by the problems his parishioners present when the communists gain control of the village government. The rivalry is greatest between Don Camillo and Peppone, the mayor; these two sometimes come to physical blows and sometimes come to each other's rescue, but end each fracas with complete under-

standing because they are both men of good will working for the good of the villagers.

Hall, James Norman—THE FAR LANDS *(Little, Brown, 1950)* —20 records—read by John Cannon AFB

The heroic people who settled the South Sea isles before history was written left a legend of their wanderings out of which James Norman Hall has woven the present novel. It captures the spirit of the people while telling the exciting story of the love of a young chief and the daughter of his enemy.

Hardy, Thomas—THE MAYOR OF CASTERBRIDGE—27 records—read by Robin Holmes NIB

The story of a man of domineering personality, his rise and fall. In Casterbridge, said to be Dorchester, an old Roman town is described in lavish detail, and the sense of the ancient world that pervades the book gives to the immediate tragedy an air of transiency.

Highet, Helen—REST AND BE THANKFUL *(Little, Brown, 1949)* —22 records—read by Terry Hayes APH

The title is the name of a green valley high in the mountains in Wyoming. Here two women, Margaret and Sarah, exploring their own country after years of European residence, found a delightful ranch house, bought it from the impoverished owner, and invited a group of would-be authors. The effect of the West on the Easterners—and their effect on the cowboys—the pretentions of the guests and their abuse of hospitality made an eventful summer, ending satisfactorily for several people.

Hilton, James—MORNING JOURNEY *(Little, Brown, 1951)*—25 records—read by Barry Doig AFB

It was quite unlike Carey Arundel to run away with any man, especially her ex-husband, Paul Saffron, an egocentric genius who went out of his way to give offense. Leaving Hollywood agog over the situation, the book draws the reader aside and gives him the

inside story. Irish-born Carey was seventeen when she married Paul, and she owed much of her dramatic success to his inspired directing; eventually she tired of standing between Paul and the consequences of his behavior, divorced him to marry a more peaceable man, and it was nearly fifteen years before Paul's desperate need showed Carey that she would never be free of responsibility for him.

Hodgins, Eric—Blandings' Way *(Simon & Schuster, 1950)*—22 records—read by Lauren Gilbert AFB

Mr. Blandings, now settled in his Connecticut home, is determined to be a good citizen, but the world misunderstands him. He suffers from being considered a foreigner from New York, he suffers more from his mistakes on the school board and as a newspaper owner, and his ignorance of small-town political deals is almost disastrous. A happy recall to his New York office, and a profitable sale of the house starts the family back to apartment living.

James, Henry—The American—41 records—read by Alvar Lidell NIB

Published in 1877, this was the author's third book of fiction, a volume of short tales and a novel having preceded it. The central character, Christopher Newman, is a typical product of the United States: cool, self-confident, and able, impressing, by the force and directness of his nature, all who come in contact with him. Having made his fortune, he is traveling in Europe for pleasure. He falls in love with a Parisian lady of noble birth, who is half English, Madame de Cintre, a widow; and she comes to care for him enough to engage herself to him. The obstacles in the way of their marriage give rise to many dramatic incidents.

Kennedy, Margaret—The Constant Nymph *(Doubleday, 1925)*—19 records—read by James Baskerville APH

The death of the erratic composer, Albert Sanger, brought his strange brood of gifted, untaught and untrained children into unhappy contact with the refinements of civilization. The develop-

ment of the children against a background of musical London provides an unconventional and absorbing story.

Keyes, Frances Parkinson—Joy Street *(Julian Messner, 1950)*—38 records—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

Emily Thayer is the heroine of a long novel that defends and criticizes the Boston Brahmins of the 1930's and 1940's. Emily shows her character by marrying over her family's objections a nice but poor and not very forceful young man of good family and her Boston horizon is broadened when she meets Roger's fellow workers in a law firm that is experimenting with young assistants of varying backgrounds—a Jew, an Irishman, and an Italian. Emily continues to love Roger and is faithful to him even after she is aware of a more powerful attraction to David, the Jewish partner. It is the Irishman, however, who was to her at first meeting a crude Irish "Mick," whom she marries after Roger's death, and with him looks forward to life in Washington.

Moore, Ruth—Candlemas Bay *(Morrow, 1950)*—19 records —read by Kate McComb AFB

Both the likable and the disagreeable characters are comfortably realistic in this story of a present-day family in a Maine coastal village. Guy Ellis' drowning, which may have been due to too much drinking, leaves his wife Jen and their six children burdened with debts. In her practical way Jen decides to put her good cooking ability to use by taking summer guests into the large old family home but meets the opposition of Guy's oldest sister and her false family pride. Complications and near tragedy develop but eventually work out to a happy ending for all with no less than three marriages.

Richter, Conrad—The Town *(Knopf, 1950)*—27 records—read by Kenneth Meeker APH

The third in a trilogy of novels about the westward expansion of the United States, the other two being *The Trees (APH, 1941)* and *The Fields (APH, 1949)*. In this novel the town grows and even changes its name. Sayward Wheeler and her husband move from

the old cabin into a mansion, and one by one the children set up their own homes. Chancey, the youngest, delicate and spoiled by his mother, is one of the central characters. The book closes with Sayward's death.

Ruesch, Hans—Top of the World *(Harper, 1950)*—12 records —read by Milton Metz APH

The adventures of an Eskimo family; Ernenek, a great hunter; Asiah, his wife; Ivaloo, their daughter; and Papik, their son. The main action of the book centers around Ivaloo, who finds life among the Southern Eskimos, with their contacts with Christian missionaries, more than she can understand.

Sabatini, Rafael—The Gamester *(1949)*—22 records—read by John Marsh NIB

The author has chosen the period of John Law's life during which the Scottish financier and gambler attempted to rehabilitate the French economy after the death of Louis XIV. The woman for whom Law had fought a duel and killed a man in England reenters his life briefly, but in the end Law reaches a deeper understanding with his wife after he is made the scape goat for the debacle in French financial schemes. The romantic element is slight but there is plenty of intrigue albeit of a financial nature that may be too complicated for some adventure readers.

Vidal, Gore—A Search for the King *(Dutton, 1950)*—12 records—read by Emmett Rogers AFB

After Richard the Lionheart's capture by the jealous Duke Leopold of Austria, legend tells us his court troubadour Blondel searched for and found him, then traveled to England where he used his influence in securing the king's ransom. This is an embroidered picaresque of the friendship between king and troubadour, the search, Blondel's friendship with a young squire, and the battle and victory over Prince John at Nottingham. All the elements of medieval life and superstition are here, told with a

twentieth-century reasonableness. Allegory can easily be read into the story, but if the reader is wary of deeper meanings, the adventure in itself is intriguing, the touch delicately humorous.

Wilkins, Vaughan—ONCE UPON A TIME *(Macmillan, 1949)*—30 records—read by Burt Blackwell APH

Oliver Granville, suffering from amnesia, falls in with three people of dubious character who seem to be dodging both the British authorities and ex-Nazi thugs. The leader, Richard Warrack, is a swashbuckling Irishman who considers racketeering in England a patriotic occupation; his companions are the beautiful and amoral Twinkle and Warrack's daughter Spicey, who leads Oliver a merry chase before agreeing to marry him. Although blood flows freely and many corpses are carried off the scene, the adventurers end up more or less on the side of the law. An irrelevant story of a missing girl and a grand duke's treasure contribute to the general confusion.

COLLECTIONS

Kipling, Rudyard—MANY INVENTIONS *(Appleton, 1893)*—21 records—read by Rex O'Malley AFB

A comparatively early group of short stories, mainly about India, in which the character of Mowgli first appears and which are considered by some judges to show Kipling at his apogee.

Maugham, W. Somerset—TRIO *(Doubleday, 1950)*—3 records—read by John Brewster AFB

Three short stories by Maugham which have recently enjoyed great success as a motion picture under the title *Trio. The Verger* is the wry, amusing tale of a verger who, after being fired from a fashionable church for illiteracy, goes on to a fabulous success as a merchant. *Mr. Know-All* concerns a consular officer returning to the Far East, his wife, a know-it-all jewel expert—and a string of pearls worth $10,000. *Sanitorium* is the story of two tuberculosis patients—a rake and a beauty—who fell in love and decided to leave

the sanitorium and be married, though they knew their happiness could last but a few months.

MYSTERY AND DETECTIVE

Christie, Agatha—THREE BLIND MICE, and Other Stories *(Dodd, Mead, 1950)*—13 records—read by George Patterson APH

Of the five men and two women snowbound in the little guest house of Monkswell Manor, one was certainly a murderer. Detective Sergeant Trotter, who had arrived "for the safety of the household," reported that the murderer's notebook had been found with a drawing of three blind mice, a bar of music and "Monkswell Manor" scrawled across the page. But which of the frightened guests was to be the next victim, Sergeant Trotter could not tell. In addition to the title novel, seven short stories are included.

Davis, Dorothy Salisbury—THE CLAY HAND *(Scribner's, 1950)* —13 records—read by Milton Metz APH

Winston was a grimy, hopeless little mining town in the hills of West Virginia. Yet it was to Winston that Dick Coffee, nationally known as a crusading newspaperman, came in search of something. Nobody knew what he was looking for. Then one morning they found him at the foot of a cliff—dead. Suicide, accident—or murder. The townspeople didn't care but Sheriff Fields was suspicious and started an investigation. It was a hard job but they found the murderer and his hidden motive.

Mason, A. E. W.—AT THE VILLA ROSE *(1910)*—17 records—read by John De Manio NIB

A revolting murder is committed at the Villa Rose, involving a young and beautiful girl in a network of suspicion. Her lover, convinced of her innocence, persuades the great Hanaud to undertake the case, and there follows a thrilling chain of incidents and startling circumstances.

Oppenheim, E. PhiHips—THE CHANNAY SYNDICATE *(Little, Brown, 1925)*—14 records—read by Kenneth Meeker APH

Gilbert Channay was framed by his business partners who thought to divide his profits. Released from prison after three years, he methodically ruins each of his enemies in Monte Cristo fashion. Channay's efforts are aided by one Martin Fogg, an ex-policeman with money and also a beautiful daughter. Can you guess the rest?

Oppenheim, E. Phillips—LAST TRAIN OUT *(Little, Brown, 1940)*—15 records—read by Alexander Scourby APH

A tale of how Leopold Benjamin, Viennese philanthropist, escapes before the Nazis can put him in a concentration camp, and by a clever ruse manages to get his famous art treasures over the border on the last train to leave Austria before the invasion.

Sterling, Thomas—THE HOUSE WITHOUT A DOOR *(Simon & Schuster, 1950)*—14 records—read by Morris Flournoy APH

"Forthrightly written and extremely well characterized spine-tingler."—*Saturday Review of Literature.*

Stout, Rex—THREE DOORS TO DEATH *(Viking, 1950)*—12 records—read by George Patterson APH

In the case book of Archie Goodwin, the crime on which each of these stories is based must surely have been marked with a star, for each, in its own way, represents something new. There's the case of the couturiere, in which high passion and high fashion march side by side. There's the case of the restaurateur, in which Archie, proving himself as able at deduction as Nero, spots a key clue and master-minds it all by himself. And the case of the horticulturist, in which Nero actually goes for a cross-country walk in the snow!—and all for the sake of his precious orchids.

WESTERN

Curwood, James Oliver—THE ALASKAN *(Cosmopolitan Book Corp., 1923)*—14 records—read by Jim Denver AFB

The story opens on board a steamer en route from Seattle to Nome. Among the passengers is Mary Standish, who has come aboard just as the ship was about to sail. Another passenger is Alan Holt, on his way home after a trip to the States, where he has been pleading for fair treatment for Alaska.

Grey, Zane—THE HERITAGE OF THE DESERT *(Harper, 1938)*—16 records—read by John Cannon AFB

The heroine of this story escapes from a colony of Mormons to avoid a hated marriage. A young man, an invalid from the East who has come to Arizona for the curative properties of the air, has learned to love the girl, who is half Indian, half Spanish; and the intense love story of this oddly matched couple is the chief interest of the tale.

Lewis, Alfred Henry—WOLFVILLE *(Stokes, 1897)*—16 records—read by John Cannon AFB

Stories put into the mouth of the "Old Cattleman," a gentleman of infinite leisure, a tolerant philosophy, and a language all his own. Though containing little that is original, they belong to the best tradition of American humorous story-telling. Probably thousands of readers have been disappointed to find that Wolfville and its rival settlement of Red Dog are not on the map of Arizona, so real do they become in the discursive drawling reminiscences of the "Old Cattleman."

BIOGRAPHY

Hussey, Harry—VENERABLE ANCESTOR: The Life and Times of Tz'u Hsi, 1835-1908, Empress of China *(Doubleday, 1949)*—28 records—read by John Knight AFB

Tz'u Hsi was born in poverty in Peking. At seventeen, alone and almost unknown, she entered the great court of the Ch'ing em-

perors of China as the lowest of the concubines. Six years later she seized control of the government, made herself empress, and ruled until her death almost half a century later. She made her court the most colorful, the most extravagant, gayest and, some claim, the most licentious of her time. At the same time she successfully guided her country through the most turbulent period of its history.

McCormack, Lily—I Hear You Calling Me *(Bruce, 1949)*—13 records—read by Terry Hayes APH

A biography of the great Irish tenor written by his wife. The book contains a McCormack discography. "In her wholly charming and thoroughly absorbing reminiscences of her famous husband, Lily McCormack has some observations of special interest to the legion of the singer's recording enthusiasts."—*Saturday Review of Literature.*

Paul, Elliot—My Old Kentucky Home (Items on the Grand Account) *(Random House, 1949)*—25 records—read by Burt Blackwell APH

Louisville, Kentucky, is the scene for Mr. Paul's latest reminiscences following those of the year in Montana described in *Ghost Town on the Yellowstone (APH, 1949)*. Soon after arriving in Louisville as an assistant in the office of a contractor, he was intimately involved in the affairs of family, guests, and help of the boardinghouse in which he lived and his diverting version of these little dramas contains vivid commentary on the mores of Louisville society, white and black, of various strata, 40 years ago.

HISTORY

Koch, Adrienne—Jefferson and Madison: The Great Collaboration *(Knopf, 1950)*—16 records—read by William Gladden APH

A study of the friendship between Jefferson and Madison which lasted for fifty years until Jefferson's death in 1826. "This book ex-

plores the political theory that Jefferson and Madison jointly professed, and indicates their characteristic differences as well as their basic agreement about political values. The inescapable conclusion of this investigation is that the political philosophy known simply as 'Jeffersonian' is actually an amalgam of ideas, which owes very much to James Madison."—Preface.

HUMOR

Considine, Bob—INNOCENTS AT HOME *(Dutton, 1950)*—7 records—read by Milton Metz APH

"It is a wise father who gets his obsession with his children out of his system by speaking about them on paper. It saves the trouble of retailing their doings and sayings to his friends, who may or may not thank him. And when the father happens to be Bob Considine it is a very profitable business indeed to enclose them between the covers of a book."—*New York Times.*

Cuppy, Will—THE DECLINE AND FALL OF PRACTICALLY EVERYBODY—Edited by Fred Feldkamp *(Holt, 1950)*—11 records—read by Kermit Murdock AFB

If you think you know most of what there is to know about people like Nero and Cleopatra; if you say that Louis XIV, Peter the Great and Catherine the Great have had everything there is to know written about them, not to mention William the Conqueror and Queen Elizabeth: then you should read this book. For here you will find Will Cuppy footloose in the footnotes of history, writing as only he could write about these fabulous shibboleths of history.

MUSIC

Chanler, Margaret—MEMORY MAKES MUSIC *(Stephen Paul, 1948)*—9 records—read by Terry Hayes APH

From her childhood in the Rome of the 1870's through the modern era, Mrs. Winthrop Chanler has been living in the main current of musical thought. As a member of a prominent American family

in Rome, she early found herself part of a colony of initiates. She grew up surrounded with the magnetism of Wagner and Liszt and studied with Sgambati, under whom she attained the standing of a finished professional pianist. Her keen intelligence reflects the changing tastes and fashions of a vigorous period in musical development.

PHILOSOPHY

Schweitzer, Albert—THE PHILOSOPHY OF CIVILIZATION—translated by C. T. Campion *(Macmillan, 1950)*—24 records—read by Kermit Murdock AFB

The first American and the first one-volume edition of both parts: Part I, *The Decay and the Restoration of Civilization,* and Part II, *Civilization and Ethics.* In this work Schweitzer maintains that real civilization must have an ethical basis, and explains his own philosophy. Requires concentrated attention.

RELIGION

Fosdick, Harry Emerson—THE MAN FROM NAZARETH AS HIS CONTEMPORARIES SAW HIM *(Harper, 1949)*—15 records—read by Jean Clos APH

Interpretation of Jesus' associations with various groups, his attitudes toward them, and their reactions to him, drawn largely from the New Testament. The contemporaries are categorized as the crowds, the scribes and Pharisees, the self-complacent, the outcasts, women and children, first disciples, militant nationalists, and Jews with a worldwide outlook. Written for general readers rather than scholars.

Sheen, Fulton J.—PEACE OF SOUL *(Whittlesey House, 1949)*—19 records—read by Duncan Elliott APH

Offers a brief for the religion of the Catholic Church as the true source of peace of the soul and refutes the claims of material methods. Although some people may read this book because of the author's reputation as one of the outstanding protagonists of the Catholic faith, its widest appeal will be to Catholic readers.

WORLD WAR II

Chapman, F. Spencer, D.S.O.—THE JUNGLE IS NEUTRAL *(Norton, 1949)*—29 records—read by James Baskerville APH

An English schoolmaster turned commando was assigned to Malaya to lead guerrilla groups harassing the Japanese invaders. For three years, alone or with Malay or Chinese Communist resistance forces, he lived a desperate hunted life in the jungle, being captured and escaping from the Japanese, suffering from tropical diseases, hunger, and exposure. This is straightforward, chronological narrative, unusual for its objectivity, unmarred by dramatization; not light reading, but its unadorned style makes believable an almost incredible feat of survival.

Eichelberger, Robert L.—OUR JUNGLE ROAD TO TOKYO *(Viking, 1950)*—20 records—read by Eugene Earl AFB

A U. S. general gives a personal account of his job in the war and the role of the U. S. Army Ground Forces under his command in the Pacific. The general's last service before retirement was as commander of the American Occupation Forces in Japan. He treats the preparation, actual combat, and every other aspect of the campaign in terms of individuals and seldom mentions large-scale strategy and tactics so that the story has a down-to-earth appeal.

SPECIAL RELEASE

ADDITIONAL CHAPTERS OF CHRISTIAN SCIENCE TEXTBOOK

The Trustees Under the Will of Mary Baker Eddy announce that, to aid those who are unable to read ink print as well as others having a special need, four additional chapters of *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures* by Mary Baker Eddy have been published in Talking Book form.

The actual reading, by Harry C. Browne, popular Christian Science reader and lecturer, was recorded on tape in the Mother Church, the First Church of Christ Scientist in Boston. The pressing was done in the studios of the American Foundation for the Blind in New York.

The records are being placed by the Trustees in all of the distributing libraries for Talking Book records, from which blind readers may borrow them in the usual manner. They may also be purchased from Christian Science Reading Rooms throughout the world; or, upon receipt of remittance, they will be sent postpaid to any address by Horace J. Carver, Publishers' Agent, One, Norway Street, Boston 15, Massachusetts.

In listing the new recordings we begin with the recording of the Preface and opening chapter recorded in 1945. The prices are given for the benefit of those who may wish to own them.

Eddy, Mary Baker—SCIENCE AND HEALTH with Key to the Scriptures—read by Harry C. Browne AFB

Preface *and* Chapter I: Prayer (1945)—2 records $2.00

Chapter II: Atonement and Eucharist—3 records $3.00

Chapter III: Marriage—1 record $1.00

Chapter IV: Christian Science Versus Spiritualism *and* Chapter V: Animal Magnetism Unmasked—3 records $3.00

Note: *Please do not send your order for these records to the American Foundation for the Blind*

CHECK THE TITLES YOU WISH TO BORROW, DETACH THE LIST AND MAIL IT TO YOUR TALKING BOOK LIBRARY—**NOT TO THE FOUNDATION.**

FOR ADDITIONAL TITLES CONSULT YOUR CATALOGUE OF TALKING BOOKS FOR THE BLIND 1934-1948

Compiled by Division for the Blind
Library of Congress

- ☐ Arkell—Old Herbaceous—8 r. AFB
- ☐ Arnold—Phra the Phoenician—28 r. AFB
- ☐ Bristow—Jubilee Trail—44 r. APH
- ☐ Bromfield—Early Autumn—20 r. APH
- ☐ Cather—One of Ours—20 r. AFB
- ☐ Chanler—Memory Makes Music—9 r. APH
- ☐ Chapman—The Jungle Is Neutral—29 r. APH
- ☐ Christie—Three Blind Mice—13 r. APH
- ☐ Colver—The Parson—16 r. AFB
- ☐ Considine—Innocents At Home—7 r. APH
- ☐ Costain—Son of a Hundred Kings—35 r. AFB
- ☐ Crawford—In the Palace of the King—17 r. APH
- ☐ Cuppy—The Decline and Fall of Practically Everybody—11 r. AFB
- ☐ Curwood—The Alaskan—14 r. AFB
- ☐ Davis—The Clay Hand—13 r. APH
- ☐ Eddy—Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures—9 r. AFB
- ☐ Eichelberger—Our Jungle Road to Tokyo—20 r. AFB
- ☐ Fosdick—The Man from Nazareth as His Contemporaries Saw Him—15 r. APH
- ☐ Goudge—The City of Bells—22 r. NIB
- ☐ Grey—The Heritage of the Desert—16 r. AFB
- ☐ Guareschi—The Little World of Don Camillo—8 r. AFB
- ☐ Hall—The Far Lands—20 r. AFB
- ☐ Hardy—The Mayor of Casterbridge—27 r. NIB
- ☐ Highet—Rest and Be Thankful—22 r. APH
- ☐ Hilton—Morning Journey—25 r. AFB
- ☐ Hodgins—Blandings' Way—22 r. AFB
- ☐ Hussey—Venerable Ancestor—28 r. AFB
- ☐ James—The American—41 r. NIB
- ☐ Kennedy—The Constant Nymph—19 r. APH
- ☐ Keyes—Joy Street—38 r. AFB

(see reverse side)

Dr. P. C. Potts

- ☐ Kipling—Many Inventions—21 r. AFB
- ☐ Koch—Jefferson and Madison—16 r. APH
- ☐ Lewis—Wolfville—16 r. AFB
- ☐ McCormack—I Hear You Calling Me—13 r. APH
- ☐ Mason—At the Villa Rose—17 r. NIB
- ☐ Maugham—Trio—3 r. AFB
- ☐ Moore—Candlemas Bay—19 r. AFB
- ☐ Oppenheim—The Chimney Syndicate—14 r. APH
- ☐ Paul—My Old Kentucky Home—25 r. APH
- ☐ Richter—The Town—27 r. APH
- ☐ Ruesch—Top of the World—12 r. APH
- ☐ Sabatini—The Gamester—23 r. NIB
- ☐ Schweitzer—The Philosophy of Civilization—24 r. AFB
- ☐ Sheen—Peace of Soul—19 r. APH
- ☐ Sterling—The House Without a Door—14 r APH
- ☐ Stout—Three Doors to Death—12 r. APH
- ☐ Vidal—A Search for the King—12 r. AFB
- ☐ Wilkins—Once Upon a Time—30 r. APH
- ☐ Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine—July, August, September, 1951 APH
- ☐ Reader's Digest—July, August, September, 1951 APH
- ☐ Talking Book Topics—March, June, September, 1951 AFB

Dear Librarian: I would like to borrow the titles checked on this list:

READER'S NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE POSTAL UNIT NO.

(SEE REVERSE SIDE)

Talking Book Topics

DECEMBER—1951

VOL. XVII *Issued Quarterly by the* NO. 4

AMERICAN FOUNDATION *for the* BLIND, Inc.

15 WEST 16th STREET • NEW YORK 11, N. Y.

Entered as second-class matter June 11, 1936, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of August 24, 1912.

Talking Book Topics

VOL. XVII, NO. 4 DECEMBER, 1951

The American Foundation for the Blind is a national agency the purpose of which is to promote increasingly and uncompromisingly the interests of all the blind throughout the United States, in close cooperation with all local organizations.

TALKING BOOK TOPICS is issued by the Foundation in inkprint, and in Talking Book form, four times a year—in March, June, September, and December. A printed copy is sent to all readers, free of charge, to aid you in requesting titles from your regular distributing library. There is a subscription price of $1 a year for the recorded edition.

If you can afford the yearly subscription price of $1 in order to receive the magazine in recorded form, please tear out the coupon in this issue, have it filled in, and mail it to the Talking Book Department of the American Foundation for the Blind, 15 West 16th Street, New York 11, New York, accompanied by your remittance.

Enclosed find the sum of $1.00 to cover one year's subscription for the recorded edition of TALKING BOOK TOPICS. Please send this magazine to:

SUBSCRIBER'S NAME .....

STREET ADDRESS .....

CITY .....

POSTAL UNIT NO. .....

STATE .....

NEW TALKING BOOKS

The following Talking Books, recorded for the Library of Congress, may now be borrowed from your regular distributing library.

AFB—*American Foundation for the Blind, New York, N. Y.*

APH—*American Printing House for the Blind, Louisville, Ky.*

NIB —*National Institute for the Blind, London, England.*

FICTION

Banning, Margaret Culkin—GIVE US OUR YEARS *(Harper, 1950)*—15 records—read by George Patterson APH

Eve Starr was a wealthy, beautiful, serene, woman. But at middle age she discovered that she could not pass on to her children the security and stability she herself prized so highly. The story is of Eve's struggle against the barrier between herself and her children, and of the desires and confusions of men and women who are growing older.

Chekhov, Anton—THE BEGGAR AND OTHER STORIES *(Story Classics, 1949)*—10 records—read by Alexander Scourby APH

Thirteen short stories by the famous Russian master including, besides THE BEGGAR, THE COSSACK, THE DARLING and several lesser known but equally powerful stories. There are few writers of any time or any nation who can depict human nature better than Chekhov.

Delves-Broughton, Josephine—THE HEART OF A QUEEN *(Whittlesey House, 1949)*—44 records—read by Carmen Mathews AFB

A fictionalized biography of Queen Elizabeth of England. The author's chief interest is in the Queen's love for Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, but moving about this central theme is the bril-

liant pageant of Elizabethan England. The character of the Queen —subtle and ruthless—and the character of the nation—brave and boisterous—are both vividly pictured.

Divine, Arthur David—THE KING OF FASSARI *(Macmillan, 1950)*—18 records—read by Milton Metz APH

Young Lt. Reis, a Navy doctor, wanted to see action and be a hero, but he was sent instead to a quiet Pacific island named Fassari. His job was to do something about the appalling health conditions which prevailed as a result of Japanese occupation. His skill and goodness so impress the natives that they claim him as their king. But Lt. Reis in his zest to do a good job had broken regulations, and inevitably the Navy relieved him from his assignment—not however before he had accomplished his mission and restored the islanders to health and happiness.

Fineman, Irving—RUTH *(Harper, 1949)*—17 records—read by George Patterson APH

This is a novel based on the Ruth of the Bible who said to Naomi, "Whither thou goest I will go." The time is the period in the Israelites' history when, just freed from slavery, they are faced with the dilemma of obeying Moses' injunction to love their neighbors while resisting the enmity of the aliens among whom they lived. The dilemma comes to a dramatic climax when Ruth, alien to the Israelites, comes to live among them.

Fitzgerald, F. Scott—TENDER IS THE NIGHT *(Scribner's, 1934)* —22 records—read by Alexander Scourby APH

F. Scott Fitzgerald has painted the classic picture of rich Americans during the Jazz Age. In *Tender Is the Night* he wrote the tragic story of two such Americans living in France at that time. It is a strange and beautifully written tale of their loves and fears, and of the final dissolution of one of them.

Frye, Pearl—A GAME FOR EMPIRES *(Little, Brown, 1950)*— 37 records—read by Noel Leslie AFB

The story of five years in the life of Horatio Nelson, England's greatest admiral. At the beginning of the book Nelson takes com-

mand of his first battleship. At the end he wins the battle of the Nile, a battle on which the fortunes of Empire hung.

Gebler, Ernest—THE PLYMOUTH ADVENTURE *(Doubleday, 1950)*—30 records—read by Livingston Gilbert APH

This is a fictional account of the voyage of the Mayflower and of the first winter in the new Massachusetts settlement. Perhaps the most remarkable thing about this book is its treatment of the Puritans as human beings with human failings, and not as the rigid fanatics of tradition. The love story of John Alden and his Priscilla is charmingly retold.

Priestley, J. B.—BRIGHT DAY *(Harper, 1946)*—24 records—read by Norman Shelley NIB

An English screen writer retires to a Cornish hotel to finish a script. He sees a couple he had known as a youth, and muses about the experiences of "that bright day" long ago. Presently 1914 and 1945 meet and some old stories find a new ending.

Spellman, Francis, Cardinal—THE FOUNDLING *(Scribner's, 1951)*—14 records—read by John Brewster AFB

The heart-warming story of a baby left by its mother in a great cathedral in New York, and of the man who found it. Opening immediately after World War I, the story centers on a returned soldier, who had lost an arm and who carries on his face a disfiguring scar. It was indirectly because of this foundling that the soldier returned to his sweetheart and found that, despite his war wounds, her love was enduring. The story carries us through World War II, in which the foundling, now grown up, meets the same crisis as had the man who had discovered him in the cathedral.

Spring, Howard—THERE IS NO ARMOUR *(1949)*—51 records—read by Richard Wessel NIB

A long, unhurried novel about a successful painter, Ted Pentecost. The story describes his life in London, Manchester, and Cornwall, and of the women he has loved. There are a great many characters, most of whom are interesting and well drawn. Leisurely reading with an English background.

Thane, Elswyth—THE LIGHT HEART *(Duell, 1947)*—29 records —read by Kenneth Meeker APH

The scene of this novel takes us back and forth between Europe and America in the years before the first World War. The heroine, Phoeber Sprague, having just got herself engaged, sails for England and falls in love with an English captain she meets on board ship. But she marries neither man. She goes to New York to become a writer, and later becomes involved with English and German friends who are separated by the outbreak of war. At the end of the book she sails from New York on the Lusitania.

Walker, Mildred—THE SOUTHWEST CORNER *(Harcourt, Brace, 1951)*—5 records—read by Kate McComb AFB

"WANTED: agreeable woman to share pleasant living with able-bodied, vigorous old lady of eighty-three with small capital, in return for all property at her death." Marcia Elder, living alone in her big Vermont house, a lonesome widow for over fifty years, wrote this ad. Sturdy and independent as she was, she felt the time had come to have someone with her, just in case anything should happen. Things happen—but not the things you would anticipate. Marcia, with her New England spirit and tenacity, wins a final victory over adversity.

COLLECTIONS

Kipling, Rudyard—THE DAY'S WORK *(Doubleday, 1905)*—21 records—read by Horace Braham APH

In this group of stories Kipling writes not only of India but of the United States, and of ships at sea—two subjects for which he is not noted but which he handles with his usual skill. His interest in railroading, which is the subject of one of these stories, will surprise many readers.

Nicolson, Marjorie—VOYAGES TO THE MOON *(Macmillan, 1948)* —20 records—read by Jean Clos APH

Man has always dreamed of voyages beyond the earth. In this book, Miss Nicolson delves into the rich literature of the imaginary voyage, and presents us with a good deal of fascinating reading. The authors drawn upon include Cicero, Cervantes, Milton, Poe and H. G. Wells.

MYSTERY AND DETECTIVE

Christie, Agatha—A Murder Is Announced *(Dodd, Mead, 1950)*—13 records—read by Morris Flournoy APH

When the inhabitants of the quiet little village of Chipping Cleghorn read a notice in the local paper that a murder would be committed there on Friday, October 29, at 6:30, they thought it was a game. But at 6:30 on the 29th, the lights went out, and—well there's the setting. We can't tell you any more than that it's a good mystery.

Day-Lewis, Cecil—The Beast Must Die by Nicholas Blake *(Harper, 1951)*—16 records—read by Robin Holmes NIB

An ingenious, baffling, highly literate piece of detective fiction, with a brilliant ending. English scene. Mr. Day-Lewis is well known as a poet, but from time to time, he writes detective stories as Nicholas Blake.

ADVENTURE AND TRAVEL

Henry, Thomas R.—The White Continent: The Story of Antarctica *(Sloane, 1950)*—14 records—read by Eugene Earl AFB

Antarctica lies at the bottom of the world—the only uninhabited continent. It is a region of unearthly beauty—and of utter desolation. It is girdled with ice, and surrounded by stormy seas. There rainbows can be seen against a green sky, and there at times things have no shadows. *The White Continent* describes this incredible region—unlike anything else on earth. It re-creates for the reader the unforgettable experience of the explorer.

Heyerdahl, Thor—Kon-Tiki *(Rand, McNally, 1950)*—16 records—read by Milton Metz APH

The story told in this book is one of the most remarkable of modern times. On a raft made of balsa logs and named Kon-Tiki in honor of a legendary sun king, Heyerdahl and five companions risked their lives to show that the ancient Peruvians could have made the 4,300 mile voyage to the Polynesian islands on similar craft. This account of a dangerous and fantastic voyage will entrance any reader.

Ryan, John Joseph—THE MAGGIE MURPHY *(Norton, 1951)*—11 records—read by Hugh Fellows AFB

This is the story of two boys just out of high school who decide to try their luck at salmon fishing in Alaska. Finding a beaten up old boat they rehabilitate it, after a fashion, and manage to reach their destination. In spite of their ignorance of things Alaskan in general, and of salmon fishing in particular, their venture ends happily. THE MAGGIE MURPHY will appeal to those who like adventure and rough humor.

Thomas, Lowell, Jr.—OUT OF THIS WORLD *(Greystone, 1950)*—14 records—read by Bucky Kozlow AFB

The author of this book is the son of the famous radio commentator. Thomas junior and senior made a dangerous and exciting journey to Tibet, and the story of their adventures is told in *Out of This World.* Only a few Westerners have ever visited Tibet—which is called the Forbidden Land. The Thomases were only the seventh and eighth Americans ever to be admitted. The climax of this colorful book, which is filled with unusual adventures, is the dramatic audience the author and his father had with the Dalai Lama, the boy king of Tibet—believed by the Tibetans to be the reincarnation of the Buddha of Mercy.

BIOGRAPHY

Bolles, Blair—TYRANT FROM ILLINOIS *(Norton, 1951)*—18 records—read by Carl Emory AFB

Uncle Joe Cannon, who as speaker of the House of Representatives virtually dictated American policy from 1906 to 1910, is the subject of this biography. Cannon, a genial, sympathetic American, made himself a dictator by legal methods for honest reasons, but power changed him into a symbol of evil. The personal and political struggle between Cannon and Senator Robert La Follette, and Cannon's control of two presidents, Theodore Roosevelt and Taft, are described here.

Martin, Betty—MIRACLE AT CARVILLE—Edited by Evelyn Wells *(Doubleday, 1950)*—18 records—read by Ethel Everett AFB

Since biblical days the victim of leprosy has been persecuted by

the black cloak, the bell, and the cry of "unclean!" But though the ancient revulsion still grips many people at the sound of the word "leper," the prejudice is losing its hold. Betty Martin felt all was over when she contracted leprosy and lost her home, her freedom, and her sweetheart. But eventually she won her fight against both despair and disease.

McKenney, Ruth—Love Story *(Harcourt, Brace, 1950)*—23 records—by Ethel Everett APH

The author of *My Sister Eileen* tells the appealing story of her own marriage. As she herself sums it up: "We haven't had much peace and quiet, to be sure, but we have had a lot of fun, and very much tenderness." The story is at times hilarious—at others very heart-warming. The scenes include Greenwich Village, Hollywood, and wartime Washington.

Vallentin, Antonia—H. G. Wells: Prophet of Our Day—translated by Daphne Woodward *(John Day, 1950)*—27 records—read by Noel Leslie AFB

Most of us know H. G. Wells only as a writer who dealt with the shape of things to come. While the author treats this aspect of Wells very thoroughly, she also gives us a picture of the man as an individual—his character, his struggles, his aspirations, and his loves. The man who predicted air conditioning, the atom bomb, both World Wars, and guided missiles, was an intensely energetic human being with strong political convictions—an extraordinary human being as well as an extraordinary writer.

A King's Story: The Memoirs of the Duke of Windsor *(Putnam, 1951)*—34 records—read by John Knight AFB

There has been no story of an individual life in our generation more interesting than the story of Edward the Eighth of England. Whoever remembers the famous broadcast in December, 1936—the one which began "At long last—" felt the whole poignance of the unique drama that reached its climax on that day. But even those who did not hear it will be interested in the life of this man, once a king, written by himself. There is much more than the story of his love for the American lady. Here is his whole life—as child,

as boy, as man—lived in the extraordinary atmosphere which traditionally surrounds a royal heir. This book will hold the interest far beyond most autobiographies.

HISTORY

Snow, Edward Rowe—SECRETS OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC ISLANDS *(Dodd, Mead, 1950)*—20 records—read by Jim Denver AFB

The islands off our Atlantic coast——Anticosti, Newfoundland, Gardiner's, Ocranoke—have witnessed many strange and wonderful events. There is hardly a one that has not been the scene of a murder, a pirate raid, a duel, or a shipwreck. Mr. Snow recounts many interesting tales of the North Atlantic islands from the early days of our history.

LITERARY HISTORY AND CRITICISM

Altick, Richard D.—THE SCHOLAR ADVENTURERS *(Macmillan, 1950)*—26 records—read by Kermit Murdock AFB

This is a most unusual and interesting book. It is detective work applied to literature. The author tells how the secrets of many famous writers were brought to light by the application of the detective's methods. The history of James Boswell's intimate revelations long hidden in an Irish castle, the search for the real story behind Christopher Marlowe's death, the amazing forgeries a respected bibliophile perpetrated over a period of forty years—these and many other episodes are related in a highly absorbing style.

HUMOR

Wodehouse, P. G.—THE MATING SEASON *(Doubleday, 1950)*—16 records—read by Franklin Engelmann NIB

Bertram Wooster and his man Jeeves wander through a British country week-end. The landscape is cluttered with the usual assortment of vicious relatives, distraught lovers, repulsive nephews, and serene butlers. The results are horrible, but completely hilarious from the reader's point of view.

RELIGION

THE HOLY BIBLE (King James Version)—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

Old Testament:

Container VII: The Book of Psalms—10 records
The Proverbs—4 records
Ecclesiastes and The Song of Solomon—2 records

New Testament:

Container X: The Gospel of St. Matthew—5 records
The Gospel of St. Mark—3 records
The Gospel of St. Luke—5 records
The Gospel of St. John—4 records

NOTE: Records of the Bible may be purchased by blind individuals for 25 cents each, plus 2c postage per record, by sending your order with remittance to: The American Bible Society, Blind Department, 450 Park Avenue, New York 22, N. Y. Do not send your order to the Foundation.

Sheen, Fulton J.—LIFT UP YOUR HEART *(McGraw Hill, 1950)* —18 records—read by Walter Gerard APH

Monsignor Sheen, author of *Peace of Soul,* discusses the inner life of modern man in terms of three levels—the superficial self, the real self, and the spirit. It is only on the level of the spirit, he contends, that the individual attains joy and peace of soul. There is very practical advice on how one may better direct his own life and thoughts and loves to achieve the highest degree of purpose and felicity.

UNITED STATES

Commager, Henry Steele—THE AMERICAN MIND *(Yale, 1950)* —35 records—read by Paul Clark APH

Professor Commager examines the work of American philosophers,

clergymen, novelists, and men of letters; he discusses the sociologists and economists; he considers the journalists, the poets, and the men of law. The resultant picture is both comprehensive and acute. Professor Commager knows, and presents accurately, the real American mind—not the one reflected in the movies and the slick magazines.

WORLD WAR II

Cope, Harley *and* Karig, Walter—Battle Submerged: Submarine Fighters of World War II *(Norton, 1951)*—15 records—read by Lauren Gilbert AFB

Immediately after Pearl Harbor our submarines were the first of our forces to carry the offensive to the enemy. In *BATTLE SUBMERGED* Rear Admiral Cope and Captain Karig tell how the subs crippled the enemy's supply lines. They tell too how the subs enabled Carlson's Raiders to carry out the successful attack on Makin—how Allied prisoners were rescued from tropical enemy-held islands—and of subs that fought one another underseas.

Leahy, William D.—I Was There *(Whittlesey, 1950)*—39 records—read by Walter Gerard APH

This book by Admiral Leahy is the story of his experience as Chief of Staff to Presidents Roosevelt and Truman. It is based on notes and diaries made at the time many great events took place. The Admiral was at Quebec, Cairo, Teheran, Yalta, and Potsdam. There is a foreword by President Truman.

Smith, Walter Bedell—My Three Years in Moscow *(Lippincott, 1950)*—24 records—read by Bill Gladden APH

Lieutenant General Smith was our Ambassador to Russia from March, 1946 to March, 1949. This is a thorough account of what he saw and did and thought in the world capital of Communism. The *New York Times* said editorially of this book that it "Casts more light on the Soviet system, on Marshal Stalin and on the tortuous twists and turns of Soviet policy than anything published thus far."

The following titles of older recordings have been re-pressed by the American Printing House for the Blind:

Bacheller, Irving—A MAN FOR THE AGES *(Bobbs-Merrill, 1919)*—19 records—read by Leland Brock APH

A re-creation of Lincoln's life from his youth to 1847.

Eliot, George—SILAS MARNER *(1861)*—13 records—read by Morris Flournoy APH

This English classic is the study of a weaver, a good man who had been falsely accused of theft. As a result of this injustice he became embittered, but his life was changed by the chance finding of a baby girl whom he took in and brought up himself. After sixteen years Silas Marner's name is cleared by the discovery of the real thief. Apart from the plot, the setting and the incidental characters (English rustics of the nineteenth century) are of great interest.

Fox, John, Jr.—THE LITTLE SHEPHERD OF KINGDOM COME *(Scribner's, 1936)*—17 records—read by Milton Metz APH

This well-known American novel is the story of a homeless mountain boy in pre-Civil War Kentucky who is taken in first by one family and then by another. As he grows up his loyalties are divided between the two families. His position is complicated by the fact that he has no known family of his own and is therefore looked down upon. He grows to manhood and when the War breaks out joins the Union Army. After a series of adventures he finds out who he really is, returns from the War, and marries his sweetheart.

Ohnstad, Karsten—THE WORLD AT MY FINGER TIPS *(Bobbs-Merrill, 1942)*—21 records—read by Ernest Rea APH

A young man, blinded in his teens, gives an inspiring account of his college days and his experiences as a job-hunter.

SPECIAL RELEASES

The *John Milton Society* wishes to make this announcement to Talking Book readers:

The *John Milton Talking Book*—(first installment, 2 records, APH)— will be ready in December. This is a recording of selected religious materials in poetry and prose. It is expected that additional installments will follow periodically.

These records may be had for permanent possession on request to the John Milton Society, 156 Fifth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y. (Please do not send your requests for these records to the Foundation.)

The Braille Circulating Library of 704 West Grace St., Richmond 20, Virginia, wishes to announce that they have an additional list of braille and Talking Book titles which they will send as a free loan to anyone, in any part of the world, who requests them. These titles comprise the Bible and also evangelistic, devotional, doctrinal, biographical, and missionary messages as well as Christian fiction.

BAFFLED TO FIGHT BETTER by Oswald Chambers—10 records
BORN CRUCIFIED by L. E. Maxwell—15 records
CALVARY ROAD by Roy Hession—5 records
GOLD BY MOONLIGHT by Amy Carmichael—12 records
GUARANTEED DEPOSITS by Donald G. Barnhouse—10 records
EPISTLE TO THE ROMANS by Donald G. Barnhouse—5 records
JESUS IS COMING by W. E. Blackstone—15 records
NOT KNOWING WHITHER by Oswald Chambers—9 records
WITH PU AND HIS BRIGANDS by Mrs. Howard Taylor—4 records
BLUE SKIES by Louise Harrison McCraw—15 records

These titles may be borrowed for a period of two weeks. If special request is made, they may be kept five weeks after being received. Send all communications to Braille Circulating Library, 704 West Grace St., Richmond 20, Virginia. *Not to the Foundation, please.*

CHECK THE TITLES YOU WISH TO BORROW, DETACH THE LIST AND MAIL IT TO YOUR TALKING BOOK LIBRARY—**NOT TO THE FOUNDATION.**

FOR ADDITIONAL TITLES CONSULT YOUR CATALOGUE OF TALKING BOOKS FOR THE BLIND 1934-1948

Compiled by Division for the Blind
Library of Congress

- ☐ Altick—The Scholar Adventurers—26 r. AFB
- ☐ Bacheller—A Man for the Ages—19 r. APH
- ☐ Banning—Give Us Our Years—15 r. APH [16 r. AFB
- ☐ Bible: Container VII: Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon
- ☐ Bible: Container X: Matthew, Mark, Luke, John—17 r. AFB
- ☐ Bolles—Tyrant from Illinois—18 r. AFB
- ☐ Chekhov—The Beggar—10 r. APH
- ☐ Christie—A Murder Is Announced—13 r. APH
- ☐ Commager—The American Mind—35 r. APH
- ☐ Cope and Karig—Battle Submerged—15 r. AFB
- ☐ Day-Lewis—The Beast Must Die—16 r. NIB
- ☐ Delves-Broughton—The Heart of a Queen—44 r. AFB
- ☐ Divine—The King of Fassari—18 r. APH
- ☐ Eliot—Silas Marner—13 r. APH
- ☐ Fineman—Ruth—17 r. APH
- ☐ Fitzgerald—Tender Is the Night—22 r. APH
- ☐ Fox—The Little Shepherd of Kingdom Come—17 r. APH
- ☐ Frye—A Game for Empires—37 r. AFB
- ☐ Gebler—The Plymouth Adventure—30 r. APH
- ☐ Henry—The White Continent—14 r. AFB
- ☐ Heyerdahl—Kon-Tiki—16 r. APH
- ☐ Kipling—The Day's Work—21 r. APH
- ☐ Leahy—I Was There—39 r. APH
- ☐ Martin—Miracle at Carville—18 r. AFB
- ☐ McKenney—Love Story—23 r. APH
- ☐ Nicolson—Voyages to the Moon—20 r. APH
- ☐ Ohnstad—The World at My Finger Tips—21 r. APH

(SEE REVERSE SIDE)

Dr. P. C. Potts

.....

- ☐ Ryan—The Maggie Murphy—11 r. AFB
- ☐ Sheen—Lift Up Your Heart—18 r. APH
- ☐ Snow—Secrets of the North Atlantic Islands—20 r. AFB
- ☐ Smith—My Three Years in Moscow—24 r. APH
- ☐ Spellman—The Foundling—14 r. AFB
- ☐ Spring—There Is No Armour—51 r. NIB
- ☐ Thane—The Light Heart—29 r. APH
- ☐ Thomas—Out of This World—14 r. AFB
- ☐ Vallentin—H. G. Wells—27 r. AFB
- ☐ Walker—The Southwest Corner—5 r. AFB
- ☐ Windsor (Duke of)—A King's Story—37 r. AFB
- ☐ Wodehouse—The Mating Season—16 r. NIB [APH
- ☐ Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine—October, November, December, 1951
- ☐ Reader's Digest—October, November, December, 1951 APH
- ☐ Talking Book Topics—March, June, September, December, 1951 AFB

Dear Librarian: I would like to borrow the titles checked on this list:

READER'S NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE POSTAL UNIT NO.

(SEE REVERSE SIDE)

TALKING BOOK TOPICS

VOL. XVIII, NO. 1 MARCH, 1952

Issued Quarterly by the

AMERICAN FOUNDATION *for the* BLIND, Inc.

15 WEST 16th STREET • NEW YORK 11, N. Y.

Entered as second-class matter June 11, 1936, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of August 24, 1912

Talking Book Topics

VOL. XVIII, NO. 1 MARCH, 1952

The American Foundation for the Blind is a national agency the purpose of which is to promote increasingly and uncompromisingly the interests of all the blind throughout the United States, in close cooperation with all local organizations.

TALKING BOOK TOPICS is issued by the Foundation in ink-print, and in Talking Book form, four times a year—in March, June, September, and December. A printed copy is sent to all readers, free of charge, to aid you in requesting titles from your regular distributing library. There is a subscription price of $1 a year for the recorded edition.

If you can afford the yearly subscription price of $1 in order to receive the magazine in recorded form, please tear out the coupon in this issue, have it filled in, and mail it to the Talking Book Department of the American Foundation for the Blind, 15 West 16th Street, New York 11, New York, accompanied by your remittance.

Enclosed find the sum of $1.00 to cover one year's subscription for the recorded edition of TALKING BOOK TOPICS. Please send this magazine to:

SUBSCRIBER'S NAME .....

STREET ADDRESS .....

CITY .....

POSTAL UNIT NO. .....

STATE .....

SPELLING AND FOOTNOTES

In response to requests from a number of Talking Book readers we are going to revive the practise of spelling out unfamiliar names on the records. This rule will apply however only to names that are of significance to a book as a whole—it will not apply to minor persons or places that have little bearing on the story. In most books to spell out every last name that is unfamiliar would, we are sure, be tedious to the listener.

And while on the subject of editorial problems we would like to say something about footnotes. In many of the books we record there are footnotes—often very numerous. We have always included the important ones, and shall continue to do so. Some books, however, contain many footnotes not of general interest. The question arises—how many Talking Book readers are interested in *all* these notes? We are convinced that very few want *every* note. So we will continue to include the important ones, and in cases where there are a great many we will in a short foreword refer the reader who is interested in following up the author's detailed references to the ink print edition of the book.

NEW TALKING BOOKS

The following Talking Books, recorded for the Library of Congress, may now be borrowed from your regular distributing library.

AFB—American Foundation for the Blind, New York, N. Y.

APH—American Printing House for the Blind, Louisville, Kentucky.

NIB—National Institute for the Blind, London, England.

FICTION

Fox, Paul—THE DAUGHTER OF JAIRUS *(Little, Brown, 1951)*—8 records—read by John Brewster AFB

The story of the girl Jesus raised from the dead. Around this incident the author has written a plot involving Judas Iscariot, and the girl Naomi, Jairus' daughter. The chief interest is the contrast between faith, as exemplified in Naomi, and intellect, as exemplified in Judas.

Kelly, Eleanor Mercein—PROUD CASTLE *(Bobbs, Merrill, 1951)*—18 records—read by Jan Tyroler AFB

Ronald Farquhar, a young American, becomes involved in some romantic doings in Hungary during pre-Hitler days. The characters are chiefly Hungarian nobles of the old regime; the atmosphere that of a decaying but picturesque society.

Klingman, Lawrence *and* Gerald Green—HIS MAJESTY O'KEEFE *(Scribner, 1950)*—26 records—read by John Cannon AFB

David Dean O'Keefe was an Irish-American sailing captain who for thirty years ruled a private empire in the South Seas. This is the little known story of his incredible career.

Mason, F. van Wyck—PROUD NEW FLAGS *(Lippincott, 1951)*—37 records—read by Palmer Ward AFB

This is a novel about the naval war between the Union and the Confederacy. The story swings back and forth between the adventures of Irad and Sylvia Seymour, and a young German seamstress —all of whom undergo many vicissitudes. The historical interest lies in the account of the Southern naval effort from the building of its Navy to the final defeat at New Orleans.

Matheson, Jean—THE CISTERN AND THE FOUNTAIN *(Scribner, 1951)*—18 records—read by Carmen Mathews AFB

Mrs. Maudslie was forced, for financial reasons, to turn her English country home into a guest house. To it came an oddly assorted group of guests, each with his or her own secret. It was only when each one had aired his own feeling of guilt that they all became happy and normal again. Subtle characterization and suspense are the chief qualities of this novel.

Payne, Robert—THE YOUNG EMPEROR *(Macmillan, 1950)*—26 records—read by Barry Doig AFB

Fired by fantastic tales of the East, Stephen Taverner, a young Englishman of the seventeenth century, sails to India to make his fortune. After a series of lurid adventures he becomes an Emperor and marries a native princess.

Shute, Nevil (pseud.)—THE LEGACY *(Morrow, 1950)*—20 records—read by Burt Blackwell APH

Jean Paget, working as a typist in London, inherits some money and travels to Malaya to reward some villagers who had helped her when she had been there as a prisoner of the Japanese. She learns that an Australian, who had been a fellow prisoner, is still alive, and goes on to find and marry him in Australia.

Slaughter, Frank G.—THE ROAD TO BITHYNIA: A Novel of Luke the Beloved Physician *(Doubleday, 1951)*—30 recorders—read by John Brewster AFB

A fictionalized account of the life of St. Luke after he joined Christ's followers. Scenes and characters from the New Testament are vividly done, in excellent detail.

Street, James—THE HIGH CALLING *(Doubleday, 1951)*—27 records—read by John Knight AFB

London Wingo gives up an important city church to organize a new one in a small Missouri town, the scene of his first ministry. The story tells of his struggle with dissident elements in his church, of the complications caused by his daughter's falling in love with a young theology student, and finally of the marriage of London, a widower, to a member of his congregation.

Tarkington, Booth—THE MAGNIFICENT AMBERSONS *(Doubleday, 1918)*—18 records—read by Burt Blackwell APH

A novel about an Indiana family of thirty-five years ago.

COLLECTIONS

Aiken, Conrad—THE SHORT STORIES OF CONRAD AIKEN *(Duell, Sloan, 1950)*—30 records—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

Mr. Aiken, who now occupies the Chair of Poetry at the Library of Congress, is one of America's most distinguished poets and short story writers. His stories are a remarkable combination of the poetic and the realitic, and are characterized by deep psychological

insight. There are twenty-nine stories, including *Silent Snow, Secret Snow,* that masterpiece of modern English fiction about the mind of a little boy.

Brickell, Herschel, *Ed.*—Prize Stories of 1949: The O. Henry Awards *(Doubleday, 1949)*—24 records—read by William Gladden APH

The thirty-first annual volume of this well-known collection of short-story writing. Stories in every mood by such writers as William Faulkner, Mark Van Doren, and Jean Stafford.

Cervantes Saavedra, Miguel de—Three Exemplary Novels —Translated by Samuel Putnam—*(Viking, 1950)*—11 records—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

The *Exemplary Novels* rank second only to *Don Quixote* in the works of the great Spanish genius Cervantes. The novels included here are *Rinconete and Cortadillo,* a tale of Seville at the turn of the seventeenth century; *Man of Glass,* the story of a truth teller who sallies forth to reveal to his fellow men the lie on which the existence of nearly everyone is based; and *The Colloquy of the Dogs,* in which two dogs engage in a conversation, not very complimentary, about mankind.

Van Doren, Mark, *Ed.*—The Best of Hawthorne *(Ronald, 1951)*—35 records—read by John Brewster AFB

A collection containing, in addition to *The Scarlet Letter,* such well known stories as *Ethan Brand, Rappaccini's Daughter, Young Goodman Brown, The Minister's Black Veil* and *The Celestial Railroad.* There is an excellent introduction by the editor.

MYSTERY AND DETECTIVE

Bentley, E. C.—Elephant's Work *(Knopf, 1950)*—14 records —read by Morris Flournoy APH

A sedate Englishman is forced to impersonate an American gunman. The plot of this story is on the extravagant side, but thoroughly entertaining.

Christie, Agatha—THEY CAME TO BAGHDAD *(Dodd, Mead, 1951)*—13 records—read by Morris Flournoy APH

The scene is a conference of the Great Powers at Baghdad. The characters are mostly secret agents on sinister missions. But little Victoria Jones, the Cockney typist who has come to Baghdad to meet her sweetheart, finds amid the maze of plotting the clue to the plot that is threatening world peace.

Gardner, Erle Stanley—THE CASE OF THE FIERY FINGERS *(Morrow, 1951)*—14 records—read by Lauren Gilbert AFB

An exciting Perry Mason story involving a husband with an invalid wife, a nurse accused of robbery by the invalid's husband, and the husband accused of murderous intent by the nurse. There are two typical Perry Mason court room scenes. And it's not giving anything away to tell you that the fiery fingers are caused by a phosphorescent powder dusted on a jewel box which makes the thief's fingers glow.

WESTERN

Cushman, Dan—MONTANA, HERE I BE! *(Macmillan, 1950)*—11 records—read by Livingston Gilbert APH

A homespun yarn about a frontier Robin Hood named Comanche John. The scene is Montana in the 1860's. A Western with lots of humor.

Grey, Zane—THE MAVERICK QUEEN *(Harper, 1950)*—19 records—read by Livingston Gilbert APH

Linc Bradway came to South Pass to clear up the mystery surrounding the death of his partner. But before he was successful in this he ran afoul of a gang of gamblers, got involved in a range war, and had his troubles avoiding the notorious Kit Bandon, the Maverick Queen.

Short, Luke (pseud. of F. D. Glidden)—VENGEANCE VALLEY *(Curtis, 1950)*—11 records—read by Don McLaughlin AFB

Owen Daybright, foreman of Acorn ranch, runs afoul of the dis-

honest son of his employer. The struggle between these two results in the defeat of the son and the exoneration of Owen. Excellent western stuff with shooting, brawling, and a love interest.

ANTHROPOLOGY

Hamilton, Charles, *Ed.*—Cry of the Thunderbird: The American Indian's Own Story *(Macmillan, 1951)*—19 records read by William Lazar AFB

In *Cry of the Thunderbird* the American Indian speaks for himself. The editor has assembled the writings, letters and speeches of dozens of American Indians, who tell us in their own words about Indian life. There are descriptions of their customs and their beliefs, of their wars with the white man, of their hunting, their games, of their family life. No other book gives such a complete and authentic picture of Indian life.

BIOGRAPHY

Horan, James D.—Desperate Men *(Putnam, 1950)*—21 records—read by Paul Clark—APH

The secret history of Frank and Jesse James, the Youngers, Butch Cassidy, and the Wild Bunch of Wyoming as revealed by the original records of the Pinkerton Agency.

Hume, Edward H., M.D.—Doctors Courageous *(Harper, 1950)*—19 records—read by George Barnes APH

Stories of great doctors, nearly all medical missionaries, who brought healing and the message of Christianity to the peoples of Africa and Asia.

Lamb, Harold—Suleiman the Magnificent: Sultan of the East *(Doubleday, 1951)*—25 records—read by John Knight AFB

A highly colored history of Turkey during the reign of the sultan Suleiman. The period is the sixteenth century, and the scene Europe and the Near East. The book is remarkable for its vivid presentation of historical characters, and its depiction of the splendors of Suleiman's empire.

MacDonald, Betty—ANYBODY CAN DO ANYTHING *(Lippincott, 1950)*—14 records—read by Terry Hayes APH

The story of Betty MacDonald from the time she lived through the experiences of *The Egg and I* until the time she wrote it. The chief character is the author's sister Mary, who was the one who proved the "anybody can do anything."

Millikan, Robert A.—THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF ROBERT A. MILLIKAN *(Prentice Hall, 1950)*—21 records—read by Walter Gerard APH

Dr. Millikan began life as the second son of a poor country minister. As a boy he worked to pay for his own education and for that of younger members of the family. Despite these struggles he became ultimately one of the great scientists of the twentieth century. Dr. Millikan closes his book with a clear statement of his own religious creed as a scientist.

Woodham-Smith, Cecil—FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE, 1820-1910 *(McGraw-Hill, 1951)*—29 records—read by Walter Gerard APH

A biography based on family papers never before made available. Miss Nightingale is shown here not only as the saintly nurse of legend, but as the elegant, witty, capable woman of the world that she was.

HISTORY

Guérard, Albert—FRANCE: A Short History *(Norton, 1946)* —17 records—read by Author and Kermit Murdock AFB

"This little book," says Dr. Guérard in the Foreword he recorded for the Talking Book edition "is my testament." In it he tells the tragic and magnificent history of "eternal France" his native land. The book is both scholarly and inspiring—the story of a truly great nation.

Kelsey, Vera—RED RIVER RUNS NORTH! *(Harper, 1951)*—21 records—read by William Lazar AFB

The Red River of the North flows from western Minnesota across

the Canadian line and into the southern end of Lake Winnipeg in Manitoba province. For many miles of its course it forms the boundary between Minnesota and North Dakota. The valley of this river, now partitioned among Minnesota, North Dakota, and Manitoba, has had a turbulent and heretofore little known history. Miss Kelsey has given her subject the most thorough and exciting treatment it has yet received.

Winslow, Kathryn—BIG PAN-OUT *(Norton, 1951)*—17 records —read by Jim Denver AFB

The story of the Klondike gold rush. This book describes life in Alaska and the Northwest Territory during the years following 1896. Overrun with miners, trappers, gamblers, hoodlums, engineers, doctors, and missionaries, the Klondike during that period was incredibly colorful and exciting.

HUMOR

Gilpatric, Guy and Norman Reilly Raine—GLENCANNON MEETS TUGBOAT ANNIE *(Harper, 1950)*—11 records—read by Burt Blackwell APH

Two well known characters of contemporary American humor are brought face to face by their authors.

LITERARY HISTORY AND CRITICISM (DRAMATIC)

Morehouse, Ward—MATINEE TOMORROW: FIFTY YEARS OF OUR THEATER *(Whittlesey, 1949)*—26 records—read by Kenneth Meeker APH

An absorbing history of the theatrical scene from the days of "Floradora" to the present. Among the personalities discussed are Frohman, Belasco, and Maude Adams; among the plays are "Sapho," "The Great Divide," and "What Price Glory."

PHILOSOPHY, PSYCHOLOGY, AND MEDICINE

Myerson, Abraham, M.D.—SPEAKING OF MAN *(Knopf, 1950)* —17 records—read by John Knight AFB

Dr. Myerson, who devoted fifty years to medicine and psychiatry, wrote this book as a record of his career and of his opinions. Some

of the subjects he touches on are *The Worth of Living, The Low-down on Authorities,* and *Desire* and *Mental Health.*

Roberts, Kenneth—Henry Gross and His Dowsing Rod *(Doubleday, 1951)*—19 records—read by Carl Emory AFB

The author of *Northwest Passage* writes persuasively of the divining (or dowsing) rod. Mr. Roberts cites impressive evidence to support the belief in the efficacy of dowsing and blasts scientists who condemn without investigating. Henry Gross, the dowser of this book, is a citizen of Maine whose dowsing rod located water on Mr. Roberts' farm in 1947.

SCIENCE

Hickey, James C.—Introducing the Universe *(Dodd, Meade, 1951)*—9 records—read by Delmar Nuetzman AFB

An informative book on astronomy. Mr. Hickey, an old hand at explaining the stars to laymen, tells about planets, constellations, comets, meteors, eclipses, the Milky Way, variable stars, and the mysterious outer reaches of the universe.

Ley, Willy—Dragons in Amber *(Viking, 1951)*—23 records—read by Jean Clos APH

Descriptions of some very interesting zoological oddities, discussions of geology and paleontology, and speculations on the development of life on volcanic islands. The mythology of amber, a substance which the ancients thought magical, forms a very interesting part of the book.

SOCIAL SCIENCE

Sherman, Ray W.—How to Win an Argument With a Communist *(Dutton, 1950)*—16 records—read by Kermit Murdock AFB

In the author's own words, this book is a "statement of just what Communism is, just what Americanism is, and, particularly, what, under each way of life, a person does—or would do—between the time he or she gets up in the morning and goes to bed at night . . . "

Step by step he describes Communism in practise and in theory, with historical examples; and step by step he demolishes the pretenses of the Marxists. (An appendix contains the complete text of the Communist Manifesto of 1848.)

TRAVEL AND ADVENTURE

Akeley, Mary L. Jobe—Congo Eden *(Dodd, Mead, 1950)*—28 records—read by Terry Hayes APH

The author visits the Belgian Congo to photograph the wildlife in the Albert National Park. Fine descriptions of herds of elephants and hippopotamuses, of snakes and birds; interesting stories of some of the primitive peoples she met and of their strange customs.

Augur, Helen—Tall Ships to Cathay *(Doubleday, 1951)*—29 records—read by Samuel Gifford APH

The story of the great American clipper ships and of the Seth Low family, masters of the China trade during the golden era of fast sailing ships.

RE-RECORDINGS

The following titles have been re-recorded by the American Printing House for the Blind and are available from the Libraries:

Cooper, James Fenimore—The Last of the Mohicans *(1826)*—25 records, read by Paul Clark

Fox, John, Jr.—The Trail of the Lonesome Pine *(Scribner, 1908, 1936)*—17 records, read by Burt Blackwell

Stevenson, Robert Louis—Treasure Island *(1883)*—13 records, read by George Patterson

SPECIAL RELEASE

These juvenile titles, produced by the American Printing House for the Blind, may be bought directly from the Printing House or, in some cases, borrowed from your library.

Write the Printing House (1839 Frankfort Ave., Louisville 6, Kentucky) for information if you wish to purchase—but if you want to borrow ask your Library if it has them.

Bird, Dorothy M.—THE BLACK OPAL *(Macmillan, 1949)*—12 records, read by Burt Blackwell. Lively doings at a co-ed college.

Brier, Howard M.—BACKBOARD MAGIC *(Random, 1949)*—10 records, read by William Gladden. High school basketball.

Bro, Marguerite Harmon—SARAH *(Doubleday, 1950)*—23 records, read by George Barnes. A sensitive young girl attains womanhood.

Cavanna, Betty—SPRING COMES RIDING *(Westminster, 1950)*—8 records, read by Terry Hayes. A sixteen-year-old girl successfully overcomes the problems involved in the rivalry with her older sister.

Dickson, Marguerite—TURN IN THE ROAD *(Nelson, 1949)*—12 records, read by Naomi Myrick. A seventeen-year-old guides her family through a crisis in its affairs.

du Jardin, Rosamond—PRACTICALLY SEVENTEEN *(Lippincott, 1949)*—8 records, read by Terry Hayes. A teen-age girl reveals her inmost thoughts about her family, herself, and her boy friend.

Edmonds, Walter D.—CADMUS HENRY *(Dodd, Mead, 1949)*—5 records, read by George Patterson. A young man serving with the Confederate forces is assigned to float over the enemy lines in a balloon.

Edmonds, Walter D.—Mr. Benedict's Lion *(Dodd, Mead, 1950)*—5 records, read by Kenneth Meeker. A comedy in which a young professor in search of a piano turns up with a lion instead.

Erdman, Loula Grace—The Edge of Time *(Dodd, Mead, 1950)*—16 records, read by Milton Metz. A young couple of the 'eighties pioneers successfully in the Texas Panhandle.

Fennimore, Stephen—Bush Holiday *(Doubleday, 1949)*—9 records, read by Walter Gerard. An American boy spends a vacation in the Australian bush country.

Hoffman, Eleanor—White Mare of the Black Tents *(Dodd, Mead, 1949)*—9 records, read by George Patterson. Story of an Arab boy and his horse.

Kalashnikoff, Nicholas—Toyon: A Dog of the North and His People *(Harper, 1950)*—14 records, read by Milton Metz. Dramatic story of a Siberian hunting dog.

Norton, Andre (pseud.)—Sword in Sheath *(Harcourt, 1949)*—12 records, read by Livingston Gilbert. Stirring action and adventure in the East Indies.

O'Rourke, Frank—The Team *(Barnes, 1949)*—13 records, read by Paul Clark. An intimate picture of a major league baseball team.

Robinson, Tom—Trigger John's Son *(Viking, 1949)*—12 records, read by William Gladden. The story of a rough but healthy gang of twelve-year-old boys.

Rush, William M.—Red Fox of the Kinapoo *(Longman's, 1949)*—12 records, read by Livingston Gilbert. An In-

dian boy of the 'seventies rejoins his own people to fight the white men.

Stolz, Mary—To Tell Your Love *(Harper, 1950)*—14 records, read by Kenneth Meeker. By watching the loves of those around her a girl comes to understand her own more clearly.

Trease, Geoffrey—Shadow of the Hawk *(Harcourt, 1949)*—10 records, read by Morris Flournoy. An adventure story set in the time of the Renaissance.

TALKING BOOKS
1951

The following Talking Books, recorded for the Library of Congress, were placed in the distributing libraries during 1951. Borrowers who wish fuller descriptions of their contents are referred to the issues of Talking Book Topics in which they were originally announced. These are indicated by the letters M, J, S, D, for March, June, September, December, 1951.

FICTION

Amory, Cleveland—Home Town—15 r. Doig APH J
Annixter, Paul—Swiftwater—11 r. Metz APH J
Arkell, Reginald—Old Herbaceous—8 r. Leslie AFB S
Arnold, Edwin Lester—Phra the Phoenician—28 r. Brewster AFB S
Arnow, Harriette—Hunter's Horn—39 r. Livingston Gilbert APH M
Banning, Margaret Culkin—Give Us Our Years—15 r. Patterson APH D
Barnes, Margaret Campbell—Brief Gaudy Hour—21 r. Parker AFB J

Beach, Rex E.—The Silver Horde—21 r. Patterson APH M
Bonavia-Hunt, D. A.—Pemberley Shades—19 r. Baskerville APH J
Bristow, Gwen—Jubilee Trail—44 r. Patterson APH S
Bromfield, Louis—Early Autumn—20 r. Knight APH S
Burman, Ben Lucien—Everywhere I Roam—15 r. Blackwell APH J
Castor, Henry—The Year of the Spaniard—18 r. Metz APH M
Cather, Willa—One of Ours—20 r. Scourby AFB S
Chapman, Maristan—Rogue's March—26 r. Flournoy APH M
Clark, Walter Van Tilburg—The Track of the Cat—29 r. Donley AFB J
Colver, Alice Ross—The Parson—16 r. Knight AFB S
Costain, Thomas B.—The Conquerors—30 r. Baskerville APH M
Costain, Thomas B.—Son of a Hundred Kings—35 r. Brewster AFB S
Crawford, F. Marion—In the Palace of the King—17 r. Flournoy APH S
Delves-Broughton, Josephine—The Heart of a Queen—44 r. Mathews AFB D
Divine, Arthur—The King of Fassari—18 r. Metz APH D
Dostoyevsky, Fyodor—Crime and Punishment—36 r. Scourby AFB J
Du Maurier, Daphne—The Parasites—23 r. Parker AFB J
Fineman, Irving—Ruth—17 r. Patterson APH D
Fitzgerald, F. Scott—Tender Is the Night—22 r. Scourby APH D
Frye, Pearl—A Game for Empires—37 r. Leslie AFB D
Gebler, Ernest—The Plymouth Adventure—30 r. Livingston Gilbert APH D
Gelfan, Lewis—The Embroidered City—24 r. Livingston Gilbert APH J
Goudge, Elizabeth—A City of Bells—22 r. Bush NIB S
Goudge, Elizabeth—Gentian Hill—26 r. Brewster AFB M
Guareschi, Giovanni—The Little World of Don Camillo—8 r. Scourby AFB S
Hall, James Norman—The Far Lands—20 r. Cannon AFB S
Hardy, Thomas—The Mayor of Casterbridge—27 r. Holmes NIB S
Highet, Helen—Rest and Be Thankful—22 r. Hayes APH S
Hilton, James—Morning Journey—25 r. Doig AFB S

Hodgins, Eric—Blandings' Way—22 r. Lauren Gilbert AFB S
James, Henry—The American—41 r. Lidell NIB S
James, Henry—The Portrait of a Lady—41 r. Knight AFB J
Kennedy, Margaret—The Constant Nymph—19 r. Baskerville APH S
Kennedy, Margaret—The Feast—18 r. Brewster AFB M
Keyes, Frances Parkinson—Joy Street—38 r. Scourby AFB S
Lea, Tom—The Brave Bulls—15 r. Grauer AFB M
Llewellyn, Richard—A Few Flowers for Shiner—26 r. Flournoy APH J
Marshall, Bruce—To Every Man a Penny—24 r. Gerard APH J
Mason, van Wyck—Dardanelles Derelict—16 r. Baskerville APH M
Mitchell, S. Weir—The Adventures of Francois—15 r. Baskerville APH M
Moore, Ruth—Candlemas Bay—19 r. McComb AFB S
Perkins, J. R.—The Emperor's Physician—19 r. Brewster APH J
Poole, Ernest—His Family—18 r. Blackwell APH M
Priestley, J. B.—Bright Day—24 r. Shelley NIB D
Richter, Conrad—The Town—27 r. Meeker APH S
Roberts, Elizabeth Madox—A Buried Treasure—13 r. McComb APH J
Ruesch, Hans—Top of the World—12 r. Metz APH S
Sabatini, Rafael—The Gamester—22 r. Marsh NIB S
Sedges, John—The Long Love—20 r. Tyroler APH M
Spellman, Francis, Cardinal—The Foundling—14 r. Brewster AFB D
Spring, Howard—There Is No Armour—51 r. Wessel NIB D
Thane, Elswyth—The Light Heart—29 r. Meeker APH D
Thirkell, Angela—The Old Bank House—24 r. Mathews AFB J
Vidal, Gore—A Search for the King—12 r. Rogers AFB S
Walker, David—Geordie—7 r. Blackwell APH J
Walker, Mildred—The Southwest Corner—5 r. McComb AFB D
Waltari, Mika—The Egyptian—41 r. Scourby AFB M
White, Nelia Gardner—The Pink House—17 r. Hayes APH J
Wilkins, Vaughan—Once Upon a Time—30 r. Blackwell APH S
Wilson, Dorothy Clarke—Prince of Egypt—28 r. Rose AFB J
Wilson, Ethel—The Innocent Traveller—14 r. Hayes APH M
Wilson, Mitchell—Live With Lightning—40 r. Meeker APH J

MYSTERY AND DETECTIVE

Carr, John Dickson—Below Suspicion—12 r. Gerard APH M
Christie, Agatha—A Murder Is Announced—13 r. Flournoy APH D
Christie, Agatha—Three Blind Mice and Other Stories—13 r. Patterson APH S
Cooke, David C., *Ed.*—Best Detective Stories of the Year 1949—12 r. Flournoy APH M
Crispin, Edmund—Buried for Pleasure—15 r. Holmes NIB M
Cunningham, A. B.—The Hunter Is the Hunted—12 r. Blackwell APH M
Davis, Dorothy Salisbury—The Clay Hand—13 r. Metz APH S
Day-Lewis, Cecil—The Beast Must Die—16 r. Holmes NIB D
Mason, A. E. W.—At the Villa Rose—17 r. De Manio NIB S
Nelson, Hugh Lawrence—Dead Giveaway—10 r. Gladden APH J
Oppenheim, E. Phillips—The Channay Syndicate—14 r. Meeker APH S
Oppenheim, E. Phillips—Last Train Out—15 r. Scourby APH S
Seely, Mabel—The Beckoning Door—13 r. Flournoy APH M
Sterling, Thomas—The House Without a Door—14 r. Flournoy APH S
Stout, Rex—Three Doors to Death—12 r. APH S

WESTERN

Curwood, James Oliver—The Alaskan—14 r. Denver AFB S
Grey, Zane—The Heritage of the Desert—16 r. Cannon AFB S
Halleran, E. E.—Prairie Guns—11 r. Metz APH M
Lewis, Alfred Henry—Wolfville—16 r. Cannon AFB S

ADVENTURE AND TRAVEL

Akeley, Mary L. Jobe—Rumble of a Distant Drum—21 r. de Brett AFB M
Flavin, Martin—Black and White—22 r. Gerard APH M
Henry, Thomas R.—The White Continent—14 r. Earl AFB D
Heyerdahl, Thor—Kon-Tiki—16 r. Metz APH D
Logan, Milla Z.—Cousins and Commissars—11 r. Hayes APH M
Ryan, John Joseph—The Maggie Murphy—11 r. Fellows AFB D
Thomas, Lowell, Jr.—Out of This World—14 r. Kozlow AFB D

BIOGRAPHY

Belin, Jean—SECRETS OF THE SÛRETÉ—17 r. Gerard APH J
Bolles, Blair—TYRANT FROM ILLINOIS—18 r. Emory AFB D
Day, Donald, *Ed.*—THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF WILL ROGERS—26 r. Livingston Gilbert APH M
Hussey, Harry—VENERABLE ANCESTOR—28 r. Knight AFB S
Martin, Betty—MIRACLE AT CARVILLE—18 r. Everett AFB D
McCormack, Lily—I HEAR YOU CALLING ME—13 r. Hayes APH S
McKenney, Ruth—LOVE STORY—23 r. Everett APH D
Oursler, Fulton and Will Oursler—FATHER FLANAGAN OF BOYS TOWN—18 r. Kozlow AFB J
Paul, Elliot—MY OLD KENTUCKY HOME—25 r. Blackwell APH S
Schweitzer, Albert—OUT OF MY LIFE AND THOUGHT—18 r. Murdock AFB M
Tharp, Louise Hall—THE PEABODY SISTERS OF SALEM—25 r. McComb AFB J
Vallentin, Antonina—H. G. WELLS: Prophet of Our Day—27 r. Leslie AFB D
Van Doren, Mark—NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE—17 r. Brewster APH J
Wernher, Hilda—MY INDIAN SON-IN-LAW—14 r. Hayes APH M
Windsor, Duke of—A KING'S STORY—34 r. Knight AFB D

COLLECTIONS

Chekhov, Anton—THE BEGGAR AND OTHER STORIES—10 r. Scourby APH D
Derleth, August, *Ed.*—THE OTHER SIDE OF THE MOON—32 r. Donley AFB M
Kipling, Rudyard—MANY INVENTIONS—21 r. O'Malley AFB S
Maugham, W. Somerset—TRIO—3 r. Brewster AFB S
Nicolson, Marjorie, *Ed.*—VOYAGES TO THE MOON—20 r. Clos APH D

ESSAYS

Espey, John J.—THE OTHER CITY—12 r. Wierum AFB J

HISTORY

Koch, Adrienne—JEFFERSON AND MADISON—16 r. Gladden APH S
Kohn, Hans—THE TWENTIETH CENTURY—15 r. Murdock AFB J

Snow, Edgar Rowe—Secrets of the North Atlantic Islands—20 r. Denver AFB D

Stettinius, Edward R., Jr.—Roosevelt and the Russians: The Yalta Conference—16 r. Knight AFB M

HUMOR

Considine, Bob—Innocents at Home—7 r. Metz APH S

Cuppy, Will—The Decline and Fall of Practically Everybody—11 r. Murdock AFB S

Cuppy, Will—How to Attract the Wombat—6 r. Blackwell APH M

Perelman, S. J.—Listen to the Mocking Bird—9 r. Scourby AFB J

Wodehouse, P. G.—The Mating Season—16 r. Engelmann NIB D

LITERARY HISTORY AND CRITICISM

Altick, Richard D.—The Scholar Adventurers—26 r. Murdock AFB D

MUSIC

Chanler, Margaret—Memory Makes Music—9 r. Hayes APH S

PHILOSOPHY AND PSYCHOLOGY

Lorand, Sandor, M.D., *Ed.*—Psychoanalysis Today: The Modern Approach to Human Problems—33 r. Gladden APH J

Parmenter, Ross—The Plant in My Window—6 r. Parmenter AFB M

Schweitzer, Albert—The Philosophy of Civilization—24 r. Murdock AFB S

Smith, Thomas Vernor—The Philosophic Way of Life in America—14 r. Clos APH M

RELIGION

The Holy Bible: King James Version—Scourby AFB

OLD TESTAMENT

Container II: Exodus and Leviticus—12 r. J

Container III: Numbers and Deuteronomy—12 r. M

Container V: Ruth, I and II Samuel, I and II Kings—20 r. J

Container VI: I and II Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, Job—21 r. M

Container VII: PSALMS, PROVERBS, ECCLESIASTES, SONG OF SOLOMON—16 r. D

Container VIII: ISAIAH, LAMENTATIONS, JEREMIAH—16 r. J

NEW TESTAMENT

Container X: MATTHEW, MARK, LUKE, JOHN—17 r. D

Fosdick, Harry Emerson—THE MAN FROM NAZARETH AS HIS CONTEMPORARIES SAW HIM—15 r. Clos APH S

Lofts, Noah—WOMEN IN THE OLD TESTAMENT—13 r. Gladden APH M

Marshall, Peter—MR. JONES, MEET THE MASTER: Sermons and Prayers—8 r. Clark APH M

Niebuhr, Reinhold—FAITH AND HISTORY: A Comparison of Christian and Modern Views of History—18 r. Clos APH M

Peale, Norman Vincent—A GUIDE TO CONFIDENT LIVING—14 r. Gerard APH J

Sheen, Fulton J.—LIFT UP YOUR HEART—18 r. Gerard APH D

Sheen, Fulton J.—PEACE OF SOUL—19 r. Elliott APH S

SCIENCE

Barnett, Lincoln—THE UNIVERSE AND DR. EINSTEIN—6 r. Sidney Walton AFB M

SOCIAL SCIENCE

Bush, Vannevar—MODERN ARMS AND FREE MEN: A Discussion of the Role of Science in Preserving Democracy—17 r. Lauren Gilbert AFB M

Lilienthal, David E.—THIS I DO BELIEVE—9 r. Nuetzman AFB M

Ware, Norman—WEALTH AND WELFARE: The Backgrounds of American Economics—11 r. Clark APH M

UNITED STATES

Carmer, Carl—DARK TREES TO THE WIND: A Cycle of York State Years—16 r. Murdock AFB M

Commager, Henry Steele—THE AMERICAN MIND—35 r. Clark APH D

Emrich, Duncan—IT'S AN OLD WILD WEST CUSTOM—14 r. Patterson APH M

Hedrick, U. P.—THE LAND OF THE CROOKED TREE—22 r. Flournoy APH M

Myers, John Myers—THE LAST CHANCE: Tombstone's Early Years—15 r. Clark APH J

WORLD WAR II

Chapman, F. Spencer—THE JUNGLE IS NEUTRAL—29 r. Baskerville APH S

Cope, Harley *and* Walter Karig—BATTLE SUBMERGED: Submarine Fighters of World War II—15 r. Lauren Gilbert AFB D

Eichelberger, Robert L.—OUR JUNGLE ROAD TO TOKYO—20 r. Earl AFB S

Leahy, William D.—I WAS THERE—39 r. Gerard APH D

Lederer, Wm. J.—ALL THE SHIP'S AT SEA—11 r. Lazar AFB M

Pocock, Arthur—RED FLANNELS AND GREEN ICE—18 r. Meeker APH M

Smith, Walter Bedell—MY THREE YEARS IN MOSCOW—24 r. Gladden APH D

PERIODICALS

ELLERY QUEEN'S MYSTERY MAGAZINE—January to December, 1951 APH

READER'S DIGEST—January to December, 1951 APH

TALKING BOOK TOPICS—March, June, September, December, 1951 AFB

TALKING BOOK READERS—1951

AFB

Horace Braham
John Brewster
Diane de Brett
John Cannon
Jim Denver
Barry Doig
Robert Donley
Eugene Earl
Duncan Elliott
Carl Emory
Ethel Everett
Hugh Fellows
Lauren Gilbert
Ben Grauer
John Knight
Bucky Kozlow
William Lazar
Noel Leslie
Carmen Mathews
Kate McComb
Kermit Murdock
Delmar Nuetzman
Rex O'Malley
Kay Parker
Ross Parmenter
Emmett Rogers
Norman Rose
Alexander Scourby
Jan Tyroler
Sidney Walton
Howard Wierum

APH

James Baskerville
Burt Blackwell
Leland Brock
Paul Clark
Jean Clos
Morris Flournoy
Walter Gerard
Livingstone Gilbert
William Gladden
Terry Hayes
Milton Metz
Kenneth Meeker
George Patterson
Ernest Rea
Jan Tyroler

NIB

Arthur Bush
John De Manio
Franklin Engelmann
Robin Holmes
Alvar Lidell
John Marsh
Norman Shelley
Richard Wessel

March 52

CHECK THE TITLES YOU WISH TO BORROW, DETACH THE LIST AND MAIL IT TO YOUR TALKING BOOK LIBRARY—**NOT TO THE FOUNDATION.**

FOR ADDITIONAL TITLES CONSULT YOUR CATALOGUE OF TALKING BOOKS FOR THE BLIND 1934-1948, AND SUPPLEMENT NO. 1, 1948-1950

Compiled by Division for the Blind
Library of Congress

- ☐ Aiken—Short Stories—30 r. AFB
- ☐ Akeley—Congo Eden—28 r. APH
- ☐ Augur—Tall Ships to Cathay—29 r. APH
- ☐ Bentley—Elephant's Work—14 r. APH
- ☐ Brickell (ed.)—Prize Stories of 1949—24 r. APH
- ☐ Cervantes—Three Exemplary Novels—11 r. AFB
- ☐ Christie—They Came to Baghdad—13 r. APH
- ☐ Cooper—The Last of the Mohicans—25 r. APH
- ☐ Cushman—Montana, Here I Be—11 r. APH
- ☐ Fox, J.—The Trail of the Lonesome Pine—17 r. APH
- ☐ Fox, P.—The Daughter of Jairus—8 r. AFB
- ☐ Gardner—The Case of the Fiery Fingers—14 r. AFB
- ☐ Gilpatric and Raine—Glencannon Meets Tugboat Annie—11 r. APH
- ☐ Grey—The Maverick Queen—19 r. APH
- ☐ Guérard—France: A Short History—17 r. AFB
- ☐ Hamilton (ed.)—Cry of the Thunderbird—19 r. AFB
- ☐ Hickey—Introducing the Universe—9 r. AFB
- ☐ Horan—Desperate Men—21 r. APH
- ☐ Hume—Doctors Courageous—19 r. APH
- ☐ Kelly—Proud Castle—18 r. AFB
- ☐ Kelsey—Red River Runs North!—21 r. AFB
- ☐ Klingman and Green—His Mapesty O'Keefe—26 r. AFB
- ☐ Lamb—Suleiman the Magnificent—25 r. AFB
- ☐ Ley—Dragons in Amber—23 r. APH
- ☐ MacDonald—Anybody Can Do Anything—14 r. APH
- ☐ Mason—Proud New Flags—37 r. AFB
- ☐ Matheson—The Cistern and the Fountain—18 r. AFB

(see reverse side)

Dr. P. C. Potts

- ☐ Millikan—The Autobiography of Robert A. Millikan—21 r. APH
- ☐ Morehouse—Matinee Tomorrow: Fifty Years of Our Theater—26 r. APH
- ☐ Myerson—Speaking of Man—17 r. AFB
- ☐ Payne—The Young Emperor—26 r. AFB
- ☐ Roberts—Henry Gross and His Dowsing Rod—19 r. AFB
- ☐ Sherman—How To Win an Argument with a Communist—16 r. AFB
- ☐ Short—Vengeance Valley—11 r. AFB
- ☐ Shute—The Legacy—20 r. APH
- ☐ Slaughter—The Road to Bithynia—30 r. AFB
- ☐ Stevenson—Treasure Island—13 r. APH
- ☐ Street—The High Calling—27 r. AFB
- ☐ Tarkington—The Magnificent Ambersons—18 r. APH
- ☐ Van Doren—The Best of Hawthorne—35 r. AFB
- ☐ Winslow—Big Pan-Out—17 r. AFB
- ☐ Woodham-Smith—Florence Nightingale—29 r. APH
- ☐ Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine—January, February, March, 1952 APH
- ☐ Reader's Digest—January, February, March 1952 APH
- ☐ Talking Book Topics—March, 1952 AFB

Dear Librarian: I would like to borrow the titles checked on this list:

READER'S NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE POSTAL UNIT NO.

(SEE REVERSE SIDE)

TALKING BOOK TOPICS

VOL. XVIII, NO. 2 JUNE, 1952

Issued Quarterly by the

AMERICAN FOUNDATION *for the* BLIND, Inc.

15 WEST 16th STREET • NEW YORK 11, N. Y.

Entered as second-class matter June 11, 1936, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of August 24, 1912

Talking Book Topics

VOL. XVIII, NO. 2 JUNE, 1952

The American Foundation for the Blind is a national agency the purpose of which is to promote increasingly and uncompromisingly the interests of all the blind throughout the United States, in close cooperation with all local organizations.

TALKING BOOK TOPICS is issued by the Foundation in inkprint, and in Talking Book form, four times a year—in March, June, September, and December. A printed copy is sent to all readers, free of charge, to aid you in requesting titles from your regular distributing library. There is a subscription price of $1 a year for the recorded edition.

If you can afford the yearly subscription price of $1 in order to receive the magazine in recorded form, please tear out the coupon in this issue, have it filled in, and mail it to the Talking Book Department of the American Foundation for the Blind, 15 West 16th Street, New York 11, New York, accompanied by your remittance.

Enclosed find the sum of $1.00 to cover one year's subscription for the recorded edition of TALKING BOOK TOPICS. Please send this magazine to:

SUBSCRIBER'S NAME .....

STREET ADDRESS .....

CITY .....

POSTAL UNIT NO. .....

STATE .....

SEVENTY POUND LIMIT RESTORED ON PARCEL POST SHIPMENTS

The following act was approved by the President on April 9, 1952:

> *"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That, in the case of reproducers for sound-reproduction records for the blind, or parts thereof, and of Braille writers and other appliances for the blind, or parts thereof, when mailed under the provisions of the fourth and fifth paragraphs of the Act of October 14, 1941, as amended (Public Law 270, Seventy-seventh Congress; 39 U.S.C., sec. 331), the maximum limit in weight shall be seventy pounds and the maximum limit of size shall be one hundred inches in girth and length combined.
>
> Sec. 2. This Act shall take effect ten days after the date of its enactment.
>
> Approved April 9, 1952."

Although the Post Office has not yet issued specific instructions for labeling such parcels, the words "Appliance for the Blind Sent for Repair," or "Appliance for the Blind" should still be put on the package. Please consult your local postmaster as to what section of the Post Office regulations should be mentioned along with the above words.

NEW TALKING BOOKS

The following Talking Books, recorded for the Library of Congress, may now be borrowed from your regular distributing library.

AFB—American Foundation for the Blind, New York, N. Y.
APH—American Printing House for the Blind, Louisville, Kentucky

FICTION

Aldridge, James—THE HUNTER *(Little, Brown, 1951)*—14 records—read by George Patterson APH

The characters in *The Hunter* are the last frontiersmen on our con-

tinent. They live in northern Ontario, and hunt and trap in forests beyond the edge of civilization. The hero, Roy MacNair, makes his living in these forests, but he is being pursued by the law—the law which represents organized society, and which is trying to eliminate men like MacNair.

Allen, T. D.—Doctor in Buckskin *(Harper, 1951)*—18 records —read by Milton Metz APH

A story of the West in the days when the first wagon trains were pushing beyond the Rockies, and the Indian was fighting to keep his land. It is also the true story of an American doctor whose love for humanity and zest for pioneering were stronger than his Yankee common sense.

Asimov, Isaac—The Stars, Like Dust *(Doubleday, 1951)*—13 records—read by Kenneth Meeker APH

A science fiction tale about a young man who is pursued through interstellar space by a gang that is trying to take over the universe. In the inky blackness of a distant nebula he comes face to face with his enemies and conquers them.

Barnes, Margaret Campbell—With All My Heart *(Macrae Smith, 1951)*—20 records—read by John Brewster AFB

An historical novel about Catherine of Braganza, the queen of Charles the Second. Catherine was a Portuguese princess, convent bred, and Charles a notorious rake. But over the years Catherine's steadfast love for the King became the most important and enduring thing in his life.

Boutcher, Esther Penny—Manowen *(Duell, Sloan, 1951)*—21 records—read by John Brewster AFB

It was shortly after the Civil War when Owen Gwynedd, an orphaned boy of fourteen, came to Manocc Island, and to the great somber house called Manowen. The strange happenings here, the cross-currents of love and hate, and the life of Owen as he grows to manhood are the subject of the story.

Craig, Lillian—THE SINGING HILLS *(Thos. Crowell, 1951)*—13 records—read by Terry Hayes Sales APH

The experiences of a young woman among the mountain people of Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky, North Carolina, and Tennessee. Thrust among these highlanders by curious circumstances, she becomes increasingly aware of their native goodness and spirituality. Untouched by modern civilization, they retain many customs dating back to Elizabethan England. But there is more in this book than the description of odd customs. There is a poignant love story, there is humor, and there is adventure.

Godden, Rumer—A BREATH OF AIR *(Viking, 1951)*—17 records—read by George Patterson APH

A kind of modern dress version of Shakespeare's *The Tempest.* The scene is a mythical island in the Pacific. The story is concerned with the mystery of individual character and personality, and with the differences between the culture of the Pacific islands and that of the West.

Idell, Albert—STEPHEN HAYNE *(Sloane, 1951)*—26 records—read by Jim Denver AFB

Stephen Hayne returned from the Civil War to find the once rich farms of his beloved Pennsylvania Dutch country lying fallow and his people half starved. He could not remain here to witness the poverty, and went away to make his fortune—only to come back, when he had made it, to fight for the people he knew. One of the chief interests in this novel is the story of the Molly Maguires, the secret society that tried to organize the coal miners in the 1870's.

Kennelly, Ardyth—THE SPUR *(Messner, 1951)*—23 records—read by George Patterson APH

Fiction and history combined tell the story of John Wilkes Booth, the man who shot Lincoln. Booth was a star of the American theatre in the 1860's. Vain, passionate, fanatical—dissatisfied with life, he sought immortality by killing the man he considered a tyrant.

Marquand, John P.—MELVILLE GOODWIN, USA *(Little, Brown, 1951)*—38 records—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

This is Mr. Marquand's fictional portrait of an American military man. *The Booklist* characterizes it as "a cynical, weary, yet admiring picture of an immature human being, but a first-class fighting man." Although a successful military man, Goodwin is caught in personal conflicts which make his inner life unsatisfactory. The scenes are varied, and include the Pentagon, war-time Paris, the battle field, and the quiet New England town of Goodwin's boyhood.

Morgan, Charles—A BREEZE OF MORNING *(Macmillan, 1951)*—13 records—read by Mercer McLeod AFB

The setting of this story is England in the 1900's. The narrator, who tells the tale forty years after the events take place, was a boy of fourteen at the time of the action. The central figure is a lovely, spoiled girl of nineteen. The story is of the effect, good or evil, that this girl's personality has on the other characters—as it seemed to the boy at the time and again forty years later.

Myers, Henry—THE UTMOST ISLAND *(Crown, 1951)*—17 records—read by John Brewster AFB

An historical novel about the Iceland Vikings and the Norse gods they worshipped a thousand years ago. The story of a rough and rude age, of mighty warriors, and of the struggle between Christianity and the old pagan gods.

Smith, Dorothy Evelyn—O, THE BRAVE MUSIC *(Dutton, 1951)*—17 records—read by Terry Hayes Sales APH

A tender story of a plain and lovable English girl whose early years were spent in two households, one rather strict, and the other free. Finding neither really satisfactory, she makes her love for a young man the central theme of her life, and eventually comes to terms with the world.

Sorensen, Virginia—THE PROPER GODS *(Harcourt, 1951)*—25 records—read by Livingston Gilbert APH

The love story of a Yaqui Indian caught in the conflict between the

iron-bound traditions of his tribe and the customs of the outside world. The background of this novel is the colorful ceremonial life of the Yaquis.

Stinetorf, Louise A.—WHITE WITCH DOCTOR *(Westminster, 1950)*—16 records—read by Terry Hayes Sales APH

"Remember always to shake the snakes and scorpions out of your shoes in the morning." That was the advice given to Ellen Burton when she went into the African jungle as a medical missionary. This is a novel based on fact—the story of a woman from a small American town who became the revered protector of countless natives in Central Africa.

Stone, Irving—THE PRESIDENT'S LADY *(Doubleday, 1951)*—28 records—read by Ethel Everett AFB

The President's Lady is Rachel Jackson, wife of Andrew Jackson. At seventeen Rachel had married Captain Lewis Robards, but later fell in love with Jackson. Rachel was divorced by Robards on a false charge of adultery, and became the wife of Jackson. But doubt on the legality of the divorce threw a shadow across the lives of Rachel and Andrew. This is a fictional account of their love, and of their long sufferings caused by Rachel's equivocal position.

Thane, Elswyth—THIS WAS TOMORROW *(Duell, Sloan, 1951)* —18 records—read by Kenneth Meeker APH

The story takes a group of people, American, British, and German, through the years 1934-1938. Against a background of dictatorship, uncertainty, fear, and appeasement these people struggle toward their different goals with varying degrees of success. Through it all the love of one couple survives all outward changes.

Thirkell, Angela—THE DUKE'S DAUGHTER *(Knopf, 1951)*—26 records—read by Carmen Mathews AFB

This is Miss Thirkell's latest bulletin from Barsetshire, where the people and the doings are as absurd and amusing as ever.

Ullman, James Ramsey—River of the Sun *(Lippincott, 1950)* —26 records—read by Livingston Gilbert APH

A novel not only of action but of ideas. *River of the Sun* tells the story of Mark Allison, ex-Army pilot, who went into the jungles of the Amazon valley. His expedition unexpectedly developed into an exciting search for a lost scientist, and incidentally brought Allison into contact with many strange people. But through all the action the young man's deepest concern is to bring himself to terms with life. And at the end of the story he feels he has succeeded in this deeper purpose.

Wheelwright, Jere—Kentucky Stand *(Duell, Sloan, 1951)*—18 records—read by Kenneth Meeker APH

The time is 1777 and the scene Maryland, Kentucky, and Ohio. The hero, Jim Cheston, nineteen, leaves his comfortable Maryland plantation home for Kentucky. The rest of the story is concerned with the rugged frontier life of those days, the battles with the Indians and the British, and Jim's growth into manhood as he successfully meets one difficult situation after another.

Zara, Louis—Rebel Run *(Crown, 1951)*—15 records—read by George Barnes APH

On a morning in 1862 a crack train of the Georgia State Railroad pulled out of Big Shanty and headed for Chattanooga, under the command of a Northern agent. *Rebel Run* is the exciting story of what happened during the next five hours. The book is based on an actual historical event.

MYSTERY AND DETECTIVE

Gardner, Erle Stanley—The Case of the Angry Mourner *(Morrow, 1951)*—11 records—read by William Lazar AFB

A badly frightened woman pounded on the door of the cabin where Perry Mason was vacationing. "I'm in terrible trouble," she said, "I have to talk to you—everything depends on it." So begins a be-

wildering murder case in which Mason stakes his reputation on a daring maneuver—and wins.

Lockridge, Richard *and* Frances—FOGGY, FOGGY DEATH *(Lippincott, 1950)*—13 records—read by George Patterson APH

It began on a foggy afternoon when the search for a lost child ended in the finding of a beautiful woman—dead—with her face in the brook. Enter Captain Heimrich of the State Police and the murderer, after the usual complications, is captured in a breathless finish.

McCloy, Helen—ALIAS BASIL WILLING *(Random, 1951)*—10 records—read by John Brewster AFB

At the beginning of the story a man posing as Dr. Basil Willing is murdered at a party. Was he killed because the murderer thought he was the real Basil Willing—or for some other reason? Basil, who finally solves the mystery, had little to go on—a note hidden in a book by a blind woman, and the queer words of the dying man. But the odd doings of a psychiatrist and some of his patients give him the key to this exciting mystery.

Stout, Rex—MURDER BY THE BOOK *(Viking, 1951)*—13 records—read by Karl Weber AFB

Nero Wolfe finds a book that can kill. It's the manuscript of a novel and it's no safer to handle than a cobra. Invading the realm of book publishing and the legal profession, Wolfe and his assistant Archie get into their usual difficulties but get their man.

WESTERN

Davis, H. L.—WINDS OF MORNING *(Morrow, 1952)*—23 records—read by Jim Denver AFB

Amos Clarke, a hot headed young sheriff's assistant, tells this story. It begins with an accidental killing. Complications arise and Amos is sent away to help an old herder move his horses into open country. The story of that trip is the story of *Winds of Morning.* Not an ordinary Western, this story is pungent and realistic, and extremely well written.

Raine, William MacLeod—SADDLEBUM *(Houghton, 1948)*—14 records—read by Livingston Gilbert APH

Jerry East rode into the town of Powder Horn with one thought in mind—revenge. His brother had been murdered and he meant to see that justice was done. Many things happened before Jerry accomplished his mission, but he did so in spite of hell and high water.

Roberts, Richard Emery—STAR IN THE WEST *(Random, 1951)* —17 records—read by Helen Shields AFB

Lu Rodgers had never been west of New Jersey when, widowed and alone, she set off for Arizona to make a new life for herself and to find a new home for her three children. How she tackled a man's job in the rough and ready West of forty years ago and won a place for herself and children—and incidentally a new husband—make an excellent story.

ARCHAEOLOGY

Ceram, C. W.—GODS, GRAVES AND SCHOLARS—Translated from the German by E. B. Garside—*(Knopf, 1951)*—27 records —read by Kermit Murdock AFB

This is a history of archaeology, and a very engrossing one. It is a brilliant account of the great archaeological discoveries and of the outstanding personalities involved in them. In dramatic fashion Ceram tells of Schliemann's discovery of the ruins of Troy, of Carter's discovery of the untouched tomb of Tutankhamen, and of Stephens' wonderful adventures in Yucatan. The book is full of excitement and color, and literally opens a new world to the reader.

BIOGRAPHY

Bartlett, Arthur—BASEBALL AND MR. SPALDING *(Farrar, Strauss, 1951)*—16 records—read by Paul Clark APH

A colorful story of the national pastime told in the form of a biography of its first and greatest promoter—A. G. Spalding. Spalding was not only a pioneer in organizing baseball as we know it today—he was the greatest pitcher of his day and the first popular baseball

hero. Of interest also in this book are stories of other famous old-time players like Anson, Griffith, McGraw and Mack.

Coburn, Kathleen—THE GRANDMOTHERS *(Oxford, 1949)*—14 records—read by Susan Douglas AFB

"This," says the author, "is the story of our two grandmothers—the Czechoslovakian Babicka, and—the Canadian Gran." She traces the history of the two—one from a quiet village in Bohemia, the other from the farming district of Upper Canada. The two never met, but the granddaughter believes that in courage, insight, and human warmth, they were much alike. The Canadian grandmother, whom she calls Gran, was married to a blind minister.

Fowler, Gene—SCHNOZZOLA: The Story of Jimmy Durante *(Viking, 1951)*—19 records—read by William Lazar AFB

Jimmy Durante, one of the great comedians of our day, began his career as a piano player in a Coney Island honky-tonk. Following that he worked in cabarets, speak-easies, vaudeville, musical shows, movies, radio, and television. Mr. Fowler's biography however does not deal exclusively with Jimmy's life as an entertainer. It tells about his marriage, his family life, and particularly about his relations with his partners—Clayton and Jackson.

Frank, Waldo—BIRTH OF A WORLD: Bolivar in Terms of His People *(Houghton, 1951)*—36 records—read by John Knight AFB

Simon Bolivar, often called the George Washington of Latin America, is the subject of this extensive biography by Waldo Frank. Mr. Frank, who is not only an authority on South American culture but a literary artist as well, gives us an authentic and absorbing picture of one of the very greatest men of the Western hemisphere.

Furnas, J. C.—VOYAGE TO WINDWARD: The Life of Robert Louis Stevenson *(Sloane, 1951)*—36 records—read by Kermit Murdock AFB

Mr. Furnas explores in this book every aspect of the life and mind

of a complex personality. Stevenson—novelist, South Sea island politician, essayist, artist, and children's poet—was a man of courage, wit, and sensitivity. Though he lived under threat of imminent death from disease, he never lost his zest. Stevenson travelled widely, lived for a time in California, and finally settled in Tahiti, where he died. Mr. Furnas gives us a detailed study of every phase of his life.

Henderson, J. Y.—CIRCUS DOCTOR *(Little, Brown, 1951)*—12 records—read by Paul Clark APH

Doc Henderson is chief veterinarian of the Ringling Brothers, Barnum and Bailey Circus. If you want to know what he does—well, maybe this will give you a general idea—sets lions' jaws, worms polar bears, fills bears' teeth, physics boa constrictors, and cures cassowaries of whatever cassowaries get. For further details consult the doctor's story as told to Richard Taplinger in *Circus Doctor.*

Hoyt, Adelia M.—UNFOLDING YEARS: The events of a lifetime as recalled and written by Adelia M. Hoyt *(Conway, 1950)*—8 records—read by Terry Hayes Sales APH

The autobiography of a pioneer in the development of organized work for the blind. In its review of Miss Hoyt's book the *Outlook for the Blind* says, "Her outstanding contribution perhaps is the development of the volunteer transcribing service of the American Red Cross after the end of the first World War, a service that was later taken over by the Library of Congress. . . . The more than 2000 volunteer workers trained and certified under the direction of Miss Hoyt stood ready to copy in braille the most recent fiction for the sightless who needed diversion, the most difficult scientific works . . . or college textbooks." Miss Hoyt was a member of the American Braille Commission, president of the Iowa School for the Blind Alumni Association, and also president of the District of Columbia Association of Workers for the Blind. In 1940 she received from the American Foundation for the Blind the Migel Medal for Outstanding Service to the Blind.

Mizener, Arthur—THE FAR SIDE OF PARADISE: A Biography of F. Scott Fitzgerald *(Houghton, 1951)*—21 records—read by Kenneth Meeker APH

The first biography of an author who has become almost legendary. Fitzgerald was the literary high priest of the Jazz Age—a glittering personality as well as a successful author. But Fitzgerald was not a happy man, and his life ended tragically. Mr. Mizener's biography of him analyzes thoroughly the artist and the man.

COLLECTIONS

Annixter, Paul—BROUGHT TO COVER *(Wyn, 1951)*—11 records —read by George Barnes APH

Fifteen of the best Annixter stories—full of outdoor action, varied in scene and subject, exciting as only this expert in action stories can make them.

Haycox, Ernest—BY ROPE AND LEAD *(Little, Brown, 1949)*—10 records—read by Livingston Gilbert APH

Nine exciting tales of the Old West by one of the best men writing in this field.

ESSAYS

Burman, Ben Lucien—CHILDREN OF NOAH *(Messner, 1951)*—8 records—read by Burt Blackwell APH

The subtitle of Mr. Burman's book is: *Glimpses of Unknown America.* The American Library Association *Booklist* describes it as "a miscellany concerning the Mississippi River and the people who live on or near it." It consists of material the author gathered on his various trips up and down the river and includes sketches, essays, and some mountain ballads.

Trilling, Lionel—THE LIBERAL IMAGINATION *(Viking, 1950)*—20 records—read by Jean Clos APH

A collection of essays by an able and interesting critic. The sub-

jects and persons evaluated include the Kinsey Report, F. Scott Fitzgerald, the relations of neurosis to art, Freud, Kipling, Dreiser, the "little magazine," Huckleberry Finn, and Henry James.

GEOGRAPHY

Corle, Edwin—THE GILA: River of the Southwest *(Rinehart, 1951)*—24 records—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

"In the opening pages" remarks the *Booklist* "two dinosaurs engage in a death struggle midstream of the Gila, then a shallow, wide-spreading stream much like the Everglades of today. From that point on, this exceptionally fascinating addition to the Rivers of America Series never lets go of the reader's imagination, as it moves from a reconstruction of the vanished pre-Columbian civilization to . . . the wild West tales of the nineteenth century."

Wilson, Charles Morrow—THE TROPICS: World of Tomorrow *(Harper, 1951)*—18 records—read by Burt Blackwell APH

As a representative of American business firms in tropical Central America, Africa, and Asia, and as an independent observer in those areas, Mr. Wilson is qualified to speak on the present and the future of the tropics. In his opinion most tropical lands have too few people for the effective development of their great natural resources. He believes that larger numbers of people can live in the hot climates and that when they do they will bring rich benefits to the world at large.

HISTORY

Bakeless, John—THE EYES OF DISCOVERY *(Lippincott, 1950)*—32 records—read by Karl Weber AFB

By following the trail of each of the explorers who first travelled over North America, Mr. Bakeless makes us see just what the continent was like before the white man settled it. Not only are the adventures of the explorers made vivid for us—there is also a wealth of colorful detail on the topography, the plant and animal life, and on Indian society.

Catton, Bruce—Mr. Lincoln's Army *(Doubleday, 1951)*—23 records—read by Walter Gerard APH

The story of Lincoln's Army of the Potomac during the early years of the Civil War when it was under the command of the dashing McClellan. But McClellan, brilliant as he was, made two fundamental mistakes—he failed to understand the President's problems with respect to the Army, and in his concern for his men he was cautious to a fatal degree.

Costain, Thomas B.—The Magnificent Century *(Doubleday, 1951)*—24 records—read by Walter Gerard APH

This is the second book in Mr. Costain's series of histories which will make up *The Pageant of England.* It is a sequel to *The Conquerors* announced in Topics of March, 1951. *The Magnificent Century* is the thirteenth century. During it, as Mr. Costain tells us, the first great strides were made toward establishing principles of democratic rule.

Johnson, Gerald W.—Incredible Tale *(Harper, 1950)*—18 records—read by Jean Clos APH

Subtitled "The Odyssey of the Average American in the Last Half-Century," this book attempts to show what has happened to the American citizen in the tremendous half-century since 1900. In a great era dominated by such men as Wilson, Roosevelt, Lenin, and Stalin, the American, in spite of certain absurdities, hypocrisies, and ignorance, appears to Mr. Johnson to be a man of sense with a growing awareness of his democratic responsibilities.

Oliver, Douglas L.—The Pacific Islands *(Harvard, 1951)*—24 records—read by Walter Gerard APH

A concise account of the islands of the Pacific from Hawaii to New Guinea written in a way that is both scholarly and entertaining. Mr. Oliver describes the racial and cultural origins of the myriad peoples of the Pacific and tells of the countless invasions by traders, planters, and missionaries that have disoriented these peoples. He describes also the effects of colonialism and war, and the restlessness which now pervades this huge area.

Pratt, Fletcher—PREBLE'S BOYS: Commodore Preble and the Birth of American Sea Power *(Sloane, 1950)*—28 records —read by Milton Metz APH

"According to the author," says the *Booklist,* "Edward Preble and his boys won the War of 1812 and gave the American Navy the spirit that has never left it." Preble took men of all kinds and instilled in them both a spirit and a fighting technique that made a Navy worthy of a world power. The book is full of exciting sea battles.

Willcox, William B.—STAR OF EMPIRE *(Knopf, 1950)*—30 records—read by William Gladden APH

The subtitle of this book is "A Study of Britain as a World Power, 1485-1945." It covers the rise of England on the international scene, England's long hey-day of imperial domination, and her recent decline as a world power. It is not a narrative history detailing battles and dynastic struggles, but an examination of the ruling ideas, forces, and human movements that made England the power she was.

HUMOR

Wodehouse, P. G.—THE OLD RELIABLE *(Doubleday, 1950)*—11 records—read by Maury Tuckerman AFB

The scene of the story is Hollywood—the characters a gang of zanies ranging from a superannuated play-boy to an English butler who has done time for safe-cracking. The plot concerns a mad scramble for the diary of a deceased movie vamp. Hilarious, rapid fire comedy—good entertainment for anyone.

RELIGION

Goodspeed, Edgar J.—A LIFE OF JESUS *(Harper, 1950)*—11 records—read by Milton Metz APH

Dr. Goodspeed is the leading New Testament scholar of our day. In his *Life of Jesus* he relies on historical fact rather than literary fancy to present a realistic picture of the Master and his contemporaries.

SCIENCE

Carson, Rachel—THE SEA AROUND US *(Oxford, 1951)*—14 records—read by Milton Metz APH

A most fascinating book on an unusual subject—the ocean. Miss Carson describes with literary skill and scientific accuracy the following aspects of the seas around us—the processes that formed the oceans, how life began in the water, currents, tides, and their effect on climate, the myriad forms of life that exist in the sea, and the secrets of its abysmal depths.

TRAVEL AND ADVENTURE

Macfie, Harry—WASA-WASA—With Hans G. Westerlund—Translated from the Swedish by F. H. Lyon *(Norton, 1951)*—17 records—read by John Cannon AFB

In the language of the Indian, *Wasa-Wasa* means "far, far away." In this book of reminiscences Wasa-Wasa means specifically the far North. It is the story of two men who shared together the most exciting year of the Gold Rush in northern Canada and Alaska—facing danger and starvation—fighting—and finding gold.

Michener, James A.—RETURN TO PARADISE *(Random House, 1951)*—30 records—read by Burt Blackwell APH

Mr. Michener is the author of *Tales of the South Pacific,* the book which inspired the Broadway musical hit *South Pacific.* In *Return to Paradise* he visits the islands again and gives us an excellent picture of the area under post-war conditions. Profound changes are taking place there. The presence of Chinese business men, of Americans, of Communists, is having its effect upon the natives. The South Pacific is becoming an important meeting place of Asia and America.

UNITED STATES

Johnson, Gerald W.—THIS AMERICAN PEOPLE *(Harper, 1951)*—12 records—read by Carl Emory AFB

Mr. Johnson examines the principles on which this country was

founded and asks whether they still apply to the United States of today. His opinion is that our doubts and confusions are much the same as those the Founding Fathers had to face, and that their principles still apply. He believes that so long as we do not lose sight of our fundamental beliefs we have nothing to fear.

SPECIAL RELEASES

The *John Milton Society* wishes to repeat the following announcement, originally made in the December, 1951, TOPICS:

The *John Milton Talking Book*—(first installment, 2 records, APH)—is now available. This is a recording of selected religious materials in poetry and prose. It is expected that additional installments will follow periodically.

These records may be had for permanent possession on request to the John Milton Society, 156 Fifth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y. *(Please do not send your requests for these records to the Foundation.)*

The Braille Circulating Library of 704 West Grace Street, Richmond 20, Va., announces the following new title:

Strombeck, J. F.—"SO GREAT SALVATION" *(Strombeck, 1940)*—8 records—read by William Gladden APH

The purpose of this book is to gather into a small volume the salient truths concerning salvation and present them in the language of the layman.

This book will be sent to anyone who requests it. *(Please direct your request for this book to the Braille Circulating Library.)*

CHECK THE TITLES YOU WISH TO BORROW, DETACH THE LIST AND MAIL IT TO YOUR TALKING BOOK LIBRARY—**NOT TO THE FOUNDATION.**

FOR ADDITIONAL TITLES CONSULT YOUR CATALOGUE OF TALKING BOOKS FOR THE BLIND 1934-1948, AND SUPPLEMENT NO. 1, 1948-1950

Compiled by Division for the Blind
Library of Congress

- ☐ Aldridge—The Hunter—14 r. APH
- ☐ Allen—Doctor in Buckskin—18 r. APH
- ☐ Annixter—Brought to Cover—11 r. APH
- ☐ Asimov—The Stars, Like Dust—13 r. APH
- ☐ Bakeless—The Eyes of Discovery—32 r. AFB
- ☐ Barnes—With All My Heart—20 r. AFB
- ☐ Bartlett—Baseball and Mr. Spalding—16 r. APH
- ☐ Boutcher—Manowen—21 r. AFB
- ☐ Burman—Children of Noah—8 r. APH
- ☐ Carson—The Sea Around Us—14 r. APH
- ☐ Catton—Mr. Lincoln's Army—23 r. APH
- ☐ Ceram—Gods, Graves and Scholars—27 r. AFB
- ☐ Coburn—The Grandmothers—14 r. AFB
- ☐ Corle—The Gila: River of the Southwest—24 r. AFB
- ☐ Costain—The Magnificent Century—24 r. APH
- ☐ Craig—The Singing Hills—13 r. APH
- ☐ Davis—Winds of Morning—23 r. AFB
- ☐ Fowler—Schnozzola: The Story of Jimmy Durante—19 r. AFB
- ☐ Frank—Birth of a World: Bolivar in Terms of His People—36 r. AFB [AFB
- ☐ Furnas—Voyage to Windward: The Life of Robert Louis Stevenson—36 r.
- ☐ Gardner—The Case of the Angry Mourner—11 r. AFB
- ☐ Godden—A Breath of Air—17 r. APH
- ☐ Goodspeed—A Life of Jesus—11 r. APH
- ☐ Haycox—By Rope and Lead—10 r. APH
- ☐ Henderson—Circus Doctor—12 r. APH
- ☐ Hoyt—Unfolding Years—8 r. APH
- ☐ Idell—Stephen Hayne—26 r. AFB
- ☐ Johnson—Incredible Tale—18 r. APH
- ☐ Johnson—This American People—12 r. AFB
- ☐ Kennelly—The Spur—23 r. APH
- ☐ Lockridge—Foggy, Foggy Death—13 r. APH
- ☐ Macfie—Wasa-Wasa—17 r. AFB
- ☐ Marquand—Melville Goodwin, USA—38 r. AFB
- ☐ McCloy—Alias Basil Willing—10 r. AFB
- ☐ Michener—Return to Paradise—30 r. APH
- ☐ Mizener—The Far Side of Paradise: A Biography of F. Scott Fitzgerald—21 r. APH

(see reverse side)

Miss Helga Lende

- ☐ Morgan—A Breeze of Morning—13 r. AFB
- ☐ Myers—The Utmost Island—17 r. AFB
- ☐ Oliver—The Pacific Islands—24 r. APH [Power—28 r. APH
- ☐ Pratt—Preble's Boys: Commodore Preble and the Birth of American Sea
- ☐ Raine—Saddlebum—14 r. APH
- ☐ Roberts—Star in the West—17 r. AFB
- ☐ Smith—O, the Brave Music—17 r. APH
- ☐ Sorensen—The Proper Gods—25 r. APH
- ☐ Stinetorf—White Witch Doctor—16 r. APH
- ☐ Stone—The President's Lady—28 r. AFB
- ☐ Stout—Murder by the Book—13 r. AFB
- ☐ Thane—This Was Tomorrow—18 r. APH
- ☐ Thirkell—The Duke's Daughter—26 r. AFB
- ☐ Trilling—The Liberal Imagination—20 r. APH
- ☐ Ullman—River of the Sun—26 r. APH
- ☐ Wheelwright—Kentucky Stand—18 r. APH
- ☐ Willcox—Star of Empire—30 r. APH
- ☐ Wilson—The Tropics: World of Tomorrow—18 r. APH
- ☐ Wodehouse—The Old Reliable—11 r. AFB
- ☐ Zara—Rebel Run—15 r. APH
- ☐ Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine—April, May, June, 1952 APH
- ☐ Reader's Digest—April, May, June, 1952 APH
- ☐ Talking Book Topics—June, 1952 AFB

Dear Librarian: I would like to borrow the titles checked on this list:

READER'S NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE POSTAL UNIT NO.

(SEE REVERSE SIDE)

TALKING BOOK TOPICS

VOL. XVIII, NO. 3 SEPTEMBER, 1952

Issued Quarterly by the

AMERICAN FOUNDATION *for the* BLIND, Inc.

15 WEST 16th STREET • NEW YORK 11, N. Y.

Entered as second-class matter June 11, 1936, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of August 24, 1912

Talking Book Topics

VOL. XVIII, NO. 3 SEPTEMBER, 1952

The American Foundation for the Blind is a national agency the purpose of which is to promote increasingly and uncompromisingly the interests of all the blind throughout the United States, in close cooperation with all local organizations.

TALKING BOOK TOPICS is issued by the Foundation in inkprint, and in Talking Book form, four times a year—in March, June, September, and December. A printed copy is sent to all readers, free of charge, to aid them in requesting titles from their regular distributing library. There is a subscription price of $1 a year for the recorded edition.

If you wish to receive the magazine in recorded form, please tear out the coupon below, have it filled in, and mail it to the Talking Book Department of the American Foundation for the Blind, 15 West 16th Street, New York 11, New York, accompanied by your remittance.

Enclosed find the sum of $1.00 to cover one year's subscription for the recorded edition of TALKING BOOK TOPICS. Please send this magazine to:

SUBSCRIBER'S NAME .....

STREET ADDRESS .....

CITY .....

POSTAL UNIT NO. .....

STATE .....

HOLLYWOOD NOTE

Talking Book listeners will be interested to know that Alexander Scourby, a popular reader for fifteen years, has spent a lot of time in Hollywood lately, and has made three pictures. The first one was AFFAIR IN TRINIDAD, with Rita Hayworth, which opened in New York July 30. In it Mr. Scourby plays a foreign spy. The other two pictures are MAGIC LADY, with Loretta Young, in which he's an Army doctor, and CATTLE KATE, in which he's a ranch owner. The last two pictures will be released this fall.

NEW TALKING BOOKS

The following Talking Books, recorded for the Library of Congress, may now be borrowed from your regular distributing library.

AFB—American Foundation for the Blind, New York, N. Y.

APH—American Printing House for the Blind, Louisville, Kentucky.

NIB—National Institute for the Blind, London, England.

DRAMA

For the first time in many years the Talking Book offers plays with a full cast. The following three Broadway successes, re-recorded from the Decca albums with the New York casts, are now available.

Eliot, T. S.—THE COCKTAIL PARTY—3 records—full cast AFB

The Cocktail Party is both a comedy of manners and an expression of an attitude toward life. There is witty and amusing dialogue in the manner of Noel Coward—but there is also a profoundly serious theme, and that theme, simply stated, is that while most of us must be content with maintaining ourselves as best we may in the common routine, there are a few people who, to achieve fulfillment, must follow the deepest dictates of conscience no matter how great the seeming difficulty.

Fry, Christopher—THE LADY'S NOT FOR BURNING—4 records—full cast AFB

This is a very amusing comedy about an English soldier of the fourteenth century who returns home tired of life and tries to persuade the authorities to hang him. He is locked up with a pretty girl who is charged with being a witch. Finally of course, instead of wanting death, the soldier wants the girl. The situations, the characters, and the dialogue are all very diverting.

Miller, Arthur—DEATH OF A SALESMAN—4 records—full cast AFB

Death of A Salesman is a tragedy—the tragedy of an ordinary man. Willy Loman, the hero, is a small-time salesman with big ideas that never pan out. Big ideas about money—big ideas about what he'll do for his sons. But Willy hasn't the ability to accomplish anything real. He is a good man—a well-meaning man, but he is a bluff, and his wife and sons realize it. Worn out and utterly defeated by his weaknesses, Willy Loman takes his own life.

FICTION

Carey, Ernestine Gilbreth—JUMPING JUPITER *(Thomas Crowell, 1952)*—13 records—read by Anne Seymour AFB

This is an amusing story of life in a department store. A girl toy buyer saves her job by coming up with a product that wows the public. But the chief interest of the book is the realistic picture it gives of the world of department store merchandising.

de Wohl, Louis—THE RESTLESS FLAME *(Lippincott, 1951)*—18 records—read by Kenneth Meeker APH

A novel about the life of Saint Augustine, based on the *Confessions,* de Wohl re-creates the atmosphere of the Roman Empire in the last days of its decline and presents Augustine as a living, breathing person—a vain, brilliant, sensual man who became one of the greatest Saints.

du Maurier, Daphne—My Cousin Rachel *(Doubleday, 1952)* —25 records—read by John Brewster AFB

"They used to hang men at Four Turnings in the old days. Not any more, though. Now, when a murderer pays the penalty for his crime, he does so up at Bodmin, after fair trial at the Assizes. That is, if the law convicts him before his own conscience kills him." Thus begins Daphne du Maurier's latest book—the portrait of an enigmatic woman who might be devil or angel. This story rates with Rebecca.

Fisher, Vardis—The Valley of Vision *(Abelard, 1951)*—25 records—read by Burt Blackwell APH

A novel about King Solomon. Solomon is portrayed as a man too far ahead of his people to be understood by them, but not quite great enough to guide them to his ideal. The story is dramatized in the persons of Ahijah, the fanatical prophet of the God of Wrath, and of Solomon, who is generous and tolerant.

Garth, David—Fire on the Wind *(Putnam's, 1951)*—32 records—read by Kenneth Meeker APH

A novel about the Great Lakes region during the period following the Civil War. A story of action and suspense as well as the story of the growth of a region.

Giles, Janice—Tara's Healing *(Westminster, 1951)*—14 records—read by Burt Blackwell APH

The story of a doctor, Tara Cochrane, who cures himself of his own ills and anxieties by learning to cure others. The scene is a small mountain village in Kentucky.

Hill, Ruth Livingston—Bright Conquest *(Lippincott, 1951)* —13 records—read by Terry Hayes Sales APH

Nineteen-year-old Wynelle Williams found life hard. Her daily routine took her from a dull office job home to a fretful mother

and a carping sister. But a sudden shift of fortune brings her a house in Virginia through her grandmother's will. Arriving at the house she runs into some disheartening obstacles to her high hopes, but Roger Blackstone, a high-minded man, himself troubled by adversity, helps guide Wynelle to religion and happiness.

Houston, Margaret Bell—BRIDE'S ISLAND *(Crown, 1951)*—12 records—read by the author and Helen Shields AFB

A story of the bayou country of Texas in 1886, when it still had all the romance of the pre-Civil War South. A little girl named Victoria Blue is the cause of an extraordinary succession of events. The book is full of interesting, colorful characters and the setting is authentically drawn by the author.

Irwin, Margaret—ROYAL FLUSH: The Story of Minette *(Harcourt, 1932)*—33 records—read by John de Manio NIB

An historical novel about the sister of Charles II. The story is about a fascinating character and is unusually accurate historically.

Jonas, Carl—JEFFERSON SELLECK *(Little, Brown, 1951)*—20 records—read by Kermit Murdock AFB

Jeff Selleck is a mid-Western Republican, a successful manufacturer who is suddenly forced by illness to lead a quiet life. He occupies his time by dictating the story of his life on to a tape recorder. The picture that emerges is highly satirical, but not without sympathy. Selleck reveals himself in all his strengths and weaknesses—an all too human figure.

Read, Opie P.—A KENTUCKY COLONEL (1889)—16 records—read by Burt Blackwell APH

A humorous novel by a writer who in his day was justly famous for his portrayal of southern character. This picture of a typical Kentucky colonel is one of his best.

Roy, Gabrielle—WHERE NESTS THE WATER HEN *(Harcourt, 1951)*—13 records—read by Helen Shields AFB

This gentle novel of life among the French-Canadians in Manitoba Province is composed of two long stories. In the first, Luzina Tousignant's devotion to her children inspires her to compel the provincial government to furnish a school for her remote island home. In the second, Father Joseph-Marie wins the respect of Protestants as well as Catholics through his devotion and common sense.

Tobin, Richard L.—THE CENTER OF THE WORLD *(Dutton, 1951)* —22 records—read by John Knight AFB

The town of Clearwater was the center of the world for Dr. Fawcett, and he wanted it to stay that way. But an outsider, a powerful, grasping banker, moved in, and things began to change. The struggle between the doctor and the newcomer is the subject of this dramatic story.

MYSTERY AND DETECTIVE

Bacon, Peggy—THE INWARD EYE *(Scribner's, 1952)*—20 records—read by Helen Shields AFB

Nellie Mertle led a quiet, unpretentious life in New York; Helen Mertle a glamorous one. Unknown to each other, they are brought together in a strange and evil plot. And it is Nellie, the quiet, inexperienced one who faces and overcomes the danger.

Christie, Agatha—MRS. MCGINTY'S DEAD *(Dodd, Mead, 1951)* —13 records—read by Barry Doig AFB

Hercule Poirot is induced to abandon his gourmandizing long enough to search out the real murderer of an old char-woman who, it turns out, knew too many embarrassing facts about her various employers. Before the malefactor, inevitably, is brought to justice, the reader is given some surprising glimpses into the past lives of some supposedly respectable citizens.

Disney, Doris Miles—STRAW MAN *(Doubleday, 1951)*—12 records—read by George Patterson APH

A man is sentenced to die for murder, but an insurance company with a hundred thousand dollar policy on his life would rather see him cheat the hangman. The company's investigator uncovers a fantastic frame-up and the man is not executed. But before it's over two people are killed in a frantic effort to save the real murderer.

Olsen, D. B. (pseud. of Dolores Hitchens)—THE CAT AND THE CAPRICORN *(Doubleday, 1951)*—12 records—read by George Patterson, APH

Priscilla Beckett, who chose only husbands who were born under the sign of Capricorn, was beginning her fourth honeymoon when death stepped into the picture. Priscilla was done in in a nasty way. But Miss Rachel Murdock, who found the body, was a match for the murderer, whom she tracked down through a maze of clues, a second murder, and a bit of blackmail.

Queen, Ellery—CAT OF MANY TAILS *(Little, Brown, 1949)*—21 records—read by Charles Richardson NIB

An Ellery Queen mystery.

Wentworth, Patricia—"ANNA, WHERE ARE YOU?" *(Lippincott, 1951)*—16 records—read by Kay Parker AFB

Maud Silver, the prim, elderly, maiden lady whose powers of detection are every bit as good as those of a Scotland Yard inspector, traces the missing Anna despite strenuous opposition from a group of very unpleasant people. The scene is Lincolnshire, England, the characters unusual to the point of grotesqueness, and the plot extremely clever.

WESTERN

Haycox, Ernest—THE EARTHBREAKERS *(Little, Brown, 1951)*—33 records—read by Livingston Gilbert APH

One full year in the lives of a group of settlers in the Oregon Territory in 1845. As the remnant of the wagon train of pioneers reaches Oregon two men have established themselves as leaders. But as a stable community is set up those who were dominant during the hazardous journey assume different roles. This novel gives an exciting and authentic picture of the American pioneer of one hundred years ago.

Raine, William McLeod—CHALLENGE TO DANGER *(Houghton, 1947)*—13 records—read by Don MacLaughlin AFB

Hugh Travis went West to take over the ranch left him by his uncle. Caught up in a bloody feud, Hugh fights a bitter war to bring peace to the range country. In the end he wins out only by throwing away caution and accepting the challenge to danger.

Short, Luke (pseud. of F. D. Glidden)—PLAY A LONE HAND *(Houghton, Mifflin, 1951)*—9 records—read by George Barnes APH

Giff Dixon, working as a surveyor, found that a powerful landholder was increasing his holdings at the expense of the small homesteaders. But everyone in town was afraid of the landowner and Giff had to play a lone and highly dangerous game to see that justice was done.

BIOGRAPHY

Cronin, A. J.—ADVENTURES IN TWO WORLDS *(McGraw-Hill, 1952)*—23 records—read by Noel Leslie AFB

In this book one of the world's best known storytellers relives the most dramatic episodes in his own life. Dr. A. J. Cronin has had two careers, both of them unusually successful. In his young manhood he was a physician in Scotland, Wales, and London. When he decided to become a writer he became world-famous as the author

of *Hatter's Castle, The Citadel, The Keys of the Kingdom* and *The Green Years.*

Douglas, Lloyd C.—TIME TO REMEMBER *(Houghton, 1951)* —13 records—read by George Barnes APH

This is the autobiography of the most widely read novelist of our time—Lloyd C. Douglas, author of *The Green Light, The Magnificent Obsession,* and *The Robe.* After finishing his last novel, Douglas decided to give up writing altogether. But he found that he could not stop, and at the suggestion of his publishers wrote the story of his own life.

Freeman, Douglas Southall—GEORGE WASHINGTON, A BIOGRAPHY, v. 3. Planter and Patriot *(Scribner's, 1951)*—48 records—read by Walter Gerard APH

Mr. Freeman's monumental biography of our first President continues with a detailed study of Washington's life as a landowner and man of affairs in Virginia. The period described is immediately prior to the Revolution. This biography of Washington, which will eventually comprise 8 volumes, is by far the most exhaustive ever written. There is an enormous wealth of detail about the day to day life of Washington and his associates that will be found nowhere else.

Freeman, Douglas Southall—GEORGE WASHINGTON, A BIOGRAPHY, v. 4. Leader of the Revolution *(Scribner's, 1951)* —40 records—read by Walter Gerard APH

A continuation of the life of Washington covering his activities through the period of the Revolutionary War.

Putnam, Peter—"KEEP YOUR HEAD UP, MR. PUTNAM!" *(Harper, 1952)*—8 records—read by the author and Alexander Scourby AFB

A student at Princeton, Peter Putnam was blinded by a shooting accident shortly before his twenty-first birthday. This is the story of his comeback—the crucial period of which was his stay at the

Seeing Eye school in Morristown, New Jersey. It was there that he learned, while training with the Seeing Eye dog Minnie, to view the consequences of his accident as challenging, but never tragic. The title is taken from the words that were almost the very first spoken to him at the school—"Keep Your Head Up, Mr. Putnam!" Mr. Putnam recorded a special introduction for the Talking Book edition.

Van Doren, Carl—JANE MECOM: The Favorite Sister of Benjamin Franklin *(Viking, 1950)*—14 records—read by George Patterson APH

No other woman—mother, wife, daughter, lover, or friend—was as important in Franklin's life as his younger sister Jane. Attracted by her personality as it was revealed in Benjamin Franklin's correspondence, Van Doren was inspired to write this biography of a little known but remarkable woman. She was, according to Van Doren, a valiant, upright spirit, lovable and brilliant. This book pictures, incidentally, the ordinary life of everyday people in Colonial times in great detail.

ESSAYS

Edman, Irwin—UNDER WHATEVER SKY *(Viking, 1951)*—13 records—read by John Knight AFB

A book of essays on a great variety of topics by the well known American philosopher. There is no formality about these little pieces—the subject may be an incident of everyday life, a view of a foreign city, a conversation at dinner, a humorous situation, a flight in an airplane. Each one evokes some interesting and original remarks.

GEOGRAPHY

Stokes, Thomas L.—THE SAVANNAH (RIVERS OF AMERICA Series)—*(Rinehart, 1951)*—22 records—read by Paul Clark APH

In its journey from the Appalachians to the sea, the Savannah drains one of the largest areas of any American river that flows to the Atlantic. Picturesque today, it is also of great interest historically, for along its shores and on its waters fought Indians, Spaniards, French, English, and Americans.

HISTORY

Armstrong, Hamilton Fish—TITO AND GOLIATH *(Macmillan, 1951)*—22 records—read by William Gladden APH

According to Mr. Armstrong Stalin's attempt to purge Tito has been Stalin's greatest mistake. The struggle between the two has split the Communist world and profoundly affected the position of the Soviet Union. This is a detailed study of the struggle between the two dictators and its eventual meaning for us.

Churchill, Winston—THE SECOND WORLD WAR, v. 3. The Grand Alliance *(Houghton, 1950)*—19 records—read by Duncan Carse NIB

This volume of Mr. Churchill's great work covers the year 1941 through the entry of the United States into the war. There are extensive quotations from official documents.

Churchill, Winston—THE SECOND WORLD WAR, v. 4. The Hinge of Fate *(Houghton, 1950)*—18 records—read by Duncan Carse NIB

The crucial eighteen months (December 1941 to June 1942) which began in disaster and ended with the expectation of success.

Cowles, Fleur—BLOODY PRECEDENT *(Random House, 1952)*—19 records—read by Luis Van Rooten AFB

Exactly one hundred years ago Juan and Encarnacion Rosas held Argentina in a dictatorship as rigid as the one dominated by Juan and Eva Peron today. Fleur Cowles reveals the startling similarities of the two regimes and traces the sinister rise of the Perons by the methods of their ruthless predecessors.

Furman, Bess—WHITE HOUSE PROFILE *(Bobbs-Merrill, 1951)*—27 records—read by Carl Emory AFB

An account of the social and private lives of the thirty-one families who have lived in the White House, and a history of the building

itself. This book is full of entertaining anecdotes and those small but interesting details of history that are not to be found in textbooks.

PSYCHOLOGY AND MEDICINE

Gumpert, Martin, M.D.—THE ANATOMY OF HAPPINESS *(McGraw-Hill, 1951)*—21 records—read by Sydney Smith AFB

Guided by his many years of personal experience, Dr. Gumpert has formulated a concrete method of combating fear and unhappiness. In this book he shows in the language of the layman how physical illness may be but the result of inner dissatisfaction, and presents some of the universal rules that lead to contentment.

Overstreet, Bonaro W.—UNDERSTANDING FEAR IN OURSELVES AND OTHERS *(Harper, 1951)*—17 records—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

In this book, the wife of the author of *The Mature Mind* is concerned with the effects on the adult of the fears of childhood. Mrs. Overstreet distinguishes between fears arising from true dangers and those fears that have no basis in reality.

Rees, J. R., M.D.—THE HEALTH OF THE MIND *(Norton, 1951)*—11 records—read by George Patterson APH

This book concerns the mind of modern man. It is addressed to the ordinary layman who needs to be more adequately informed on questions concerning his psychological make-up. It is a simple exposition of the principles of psychology by an authority who has the ablity to make his subject interesting to the ordinary reader.

SCIENCE AND INVENTION

Wright, Wilbur and Orville—MIRACLE AT KITTY HAWK: The Letters of Wilbur and Orville Wright, ed. by Fred C. Kelly *(Farrar, Straus, 1951)*—20 records—read by Kenneth Meeker APH

These letters give a first-hand account of the invention of the air-

plane and an intimate portrait of the famous Wright brothers. The Wrights, with little formal education and limited experience with machines, overcame the problems that defeated the great scientific minds of the day.

SOCIAL SCIENCES

Burgess, Perry—Born of Those Years *(Holt, 1951)*—23 records—read by Kermit Murdock AFB

The author of *Who Walk Alone* writes of his life work among those whom he calls "the most gallant people on the face of the earth—those who are the victims of leprosy." Dr. Burgess has written this book for the layman, and he is very much interested in stressing those facts least familiar to laymen—namely, that though the disease is widespread it is not easily communicable, and that the prejudice against lepers is based on ignorance.

Ross, Ishbel—Journey Into Light (with a foreword by Helen Keller)—*(Appleton, 1951)*—31 records—read by Ethel Everett AFB

The Booklist says, "this book tells the history of the blind, from . . . ancient times . . . to the present. . . . Stories of those who have achieved a satisfactory life, of those who have gone on to fame, of the non-blind whose interest and help have made the progress easier, and the advances of schools and scientific studies in this and other countries." Perhaps the most interesting parts of the book are those dealing with the lives of such great figures as Haüy, Braille, Howe, Bridgman, Helen Keller, and many others.

TRAVEL AND ADVENTURE

Burr, Pamela—My Turkish Adventure *(Norton, 1951)*—12 records—read by Terry Hayes Sales APH

An American woman's experiences in modern Turkey. The author was a teacher at the American Girls' College in Istanbul. She travelled widely during her stay in Turkey and gives an authentic account of this colorful country which has only recently begun to take up Western ideas.

Chippendale, H. A., Captain—SAILS AND WHALES *(Houghton, 1951)*—12 records—read by William Lazar

"Born on a whaling ship in 1879, the author spent his early years on St. Helena. Although he became a pharmacist he never ceased to have a romantic attachment to the sea, and returned to it again and again, in spite of experiences with unseaworthy ships, bad captains, mutinies, and near shipwreck." *Booklist*

Coon, Carleton S.—CARAVAN: The Story of the Middle East *(Holt, 1951)*—30 records—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

A fascinating story of the entire Middle East, from the remote beginnings down to the present. The territory from Morocco to Afghanistan and from the Atlas Mountains to the Zagros is described in great historical, geographical, and anthropological detail.

Douglas, William O.—STRANGE LANDS AND FRIENDLY PEOPLE *(Harper, 1951)*—22 records—read by Paul Clark APH

In the summer of 1949-1950, Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas traveled and lived amongst the tribesmen of Iran, the peasants of Syria and Lebanon, and the leaders and plain people of Israel. He also visited Iraq, Jordan, Greece, Cyprus, and the new India. Justice Douglas not only recounts his interesting personal adventures; he shows us how in the countries he visited Western democracy is losing by default to Soviet propaganda. The people of these countries are demanding our attention, and in his opinion they should not be denied.

Hobson, Richmond P., Jr.—GRASS BEYOND THE MOUNTAINS *(Lippincott, 1951)*—17 records—read by John Cannon AFB

This true adventure story tells of the successful exploration of the unknown land beyond the formidable mountain ranges in the heart of British Columbia by three men who survived a rough trek through uncharted country to open up a vast new frontier. The wilderness they conquered to find new grazing lands was as wild and remote as the West of our own country a hundred years ago.

Keith, Agnes Newton—WHITE MAN RETURNS *(Little, Brown, 1951)*—20 records—read by Helen Harrelson AFB

The author of *Land Below the Wind* and *Three Came Home* tells of the return of herself and her family to North Borneo after the war. There they renewed their work with the natives and acquired a deeper understanding of the people of that region. Mrs. Keith is seriously aware of the need for good will toward these people in the post-War world.

Thomas, Charles W., Captain, USCG—ICE IS WHERE YOU FIND IT *(Bobbs-Merrill, 1951)*—23 records—read by Milton Metz APH

It has been said that an officer in the Coast Guard must combine the characteristics of navigator, marine engineer, lifesaver, sea-fighter, international lawyer, and diplomat. Captain Thomas has been all of these during a Coast Guard career that took him through peace and war and from Greenland to the Antarctic, where he earned Admiral Byrd's praise as "one of the best ice sailors alive." This is an exciting book about the men who chart the polar ice caps.

Thomas, Lowell—BACK TO MANDALAY *(Greystone, 1951)*—14 records—read by Milton Metz APH

Lowell Thomas' exciting account of one of the great true adventure stories of our time—the daring exploits of General Orde Wingate, fabulous guerrilla fighter, and the gallant American Air Commandos, who fought a strange war in the impenetrable jungles of Burma.

Tomlinson, H. M.—THE FACE OF THE EARTH *(Bobbs-Merrill, 1951)*—15 records—read by Sam Allgood APH

Travel sketches by the author of that modern classic, *The Sea and the Jungle*. Mr. Tomlinson describes a voyage on a tramp steamer to the island of Celebes, a journey to Spain, and several other experiences. His pictures of places and people are unforgettable.

Williams, James H.—Elephant Bill *(Doubleday, 1950)*—19 records—read by John de Manio NIB

The author, who first handled elephants in the teak forests of Burma, tells of his long experience in training these sagacious animals. A fascinating account of their training, their native handlers, and of jungle life.

UNITED STATES

Fischer, John—Master Plan U.S.A. *(Harper, 1951)*—15 records—ready by Sidney Walton AFB

An informal report on America's foreign policy and the men who make it. Without partisan bias the author attempts to answer the questions: Who actually makes our foreign policy decisions? Do the people in Washington have any long-range plan? What are our real strengths and our real weaknesses today? Mr. Fischer offers the clearest outline of American foreign policy available today.

SPECIAL RELEASE

The Braille Circulating Library, 704 West Grace Street, Richmond 20, Virginia, has added to its collection of recordings the titles listed below. These are on plastic discs to be played only with a semi-permanent needle.

Abide in Christ by Andrew Murray—15 r.

Belonging by N. B. Harrison—7 r.

Called Unto Holiness by Ruth Paxson—6 r.

Campfires on the Trail by Ruth Stull—3 r.

Charge That to My Account by H. A. Ironside—10 r.

Great Words of the Gospel by H. A. Ironside—10 r.

What Is Faith by D. L. Moody—11 r.

What Jesus Means to Me by H. W. Goeckel—5 r.

Why I Am A Christian by O. Hallesby—18 r.

The *John Milton Society* wishes to repeat the following announcement, originally made in the December 1951 TOPICS:

The *John Milton Talking Book Magazine* is now available. Each issue of this magazine, which is published quarterly, contains selected religious material in poetry and prose. The records are for permanent possession and may be obtained on request from the John Milton Society, 156 Fifth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

CHECK THE TITLES YOU WISH TO BORROW, DETACH THE LIST AND MAIL IT TO YOUR TALKING BOOK LIBRARY—**NOT TO THE FOUNDATION.**

FOR ADDITIONAL TITLES CONSULT YOUR CATALOGUE OF TALKING BOOKS FOR THE BLIND 1934-1948, AND SUPPLEMENT NO. 1, 1948-1950

Compiled by Division for the Blind
Library of Congress

- ☐ Armstrong—Tito and Goliath—22 r. APH
- ☐ Bacon—The Inward Eye—20 r. AFB
- ☐ Burgess—Born of Those Years—23 r. AFB
- ☐ Burr—My Turkish Adventure—12 r. APH
- ☐ Carey—Jumping Jupiter—13 r. AFB
- ☐ Chippendale—Sails and Whales—12 r. AFB
- ☐ Christie—Mrs. McGinty's Dead—13 r. AFB
- ☐ Churchill—The Grand Alliance—19 r. NIB
- ☐ Churchill—The Hinge of Fate—18 r. NIB
- ☐ Coon—Caravan: The Story of the Middle East—30 r. AFB
- ☐ Cowles—Bloody Precedent—19 r. AFB
- ☐ Cronin—Adventures in Two Worlds—23 r. AFB
- ☐ de Wohl—The Restless Flame—18 r. APH
- ☐ Disney—Straw Man—12 r. APH
- ☐ Douglas, Lloyd—Time To Remember—13 r. APH
- ☐ Douglas, William—Strange Lands and Friendly People—22 r. APH
- ☐ du Maurier—My Cousin Rachel—25 r. AFB
- ☐ Edman—Under Whatever Sky—13 r. AFB
- ☐ Eliot—The Cocktail Party—3 r. AFB
- ☐ Fischer—Master Plan, U.S.A.—15 r. AFB
- ☐ Fisher—The Valley of Vision—25 r. APH
- ☐ Freeman—George Washington, v. 3, Planter and Patriot—48 r. APH
- ☐ Freeman—George Washington, v. 4, Leader of the Revolution—40 r. APH
- ☐ Fry—The Lady's Not For Burning—4 r. AFB
- ☐ Furman—White House Profile—27 r. AFB
- ☐ Garth—Fire on the Wind—32 r. APH
- ☐ Giles—Tara's Healing—14 r. APH
- ☐ Gumpert—The Anatomy of Happiness—21 r. AFB
- ☐ Haycox—The Earthbreakers—33 r. APH
- ☐ Hill—Bright Conquest—13 r. APH
- ☐ Hobson—Grass Beyond the Mountains—17 r. AFB
- ☐ Houston—Bride's Island—12 r. AFB
- ☐ Irwin—Royal Flush: The Story of Minette—33 r. NIB
- ☐ Jonas—Jeferson Selleck—20 r. AFB
- ☐ Keith—White Magic Returns—20 r. AFB
- ☐ Miller—Death of A Salesman—4 r. AFB

Miss Helga Lende

- ☐ Olsen—The Cat and The Capricorn—12 r. APH
- ☐ Overstreet—Understanding Fear In Ourselves and Others—17 r. AFB
- ☐ Putnam—"Keep Your Head Up, Mr. Putnam!"—8 r. AFB
- ☐ Queen—Cat of Many Tails—21 r. NIB
- ☐ Raine—Challenge To Danger—13 r. AFB
- ☐ Read—A Kentucky Colonel—16 r. APH
- ☐ Rees—The Health of The Mind—11 r. APH
- ☐ Ross—Journey Into Light—31 r. AFB
- ☐ Roy—Where Nests The Water Hen—13 r. AFB
- ☐ Short—Play A Lone Hand—9 r. APH
- ☐ Stokes—The Savannah—22 r. APH
- ☐ Thomas, Charles—Ice Is Where You Find It—23 r. APH
- ☐ Thomas, Lowell—Back To Mandalay—14 r. APH
- ☐ Tobin—The Center of the World—22 r. AFB
- ☐ Tomlinson—The Face of the Earth—15 r. APH [APH
- ☐ Van Doren—Jane Mecom: The Favorite Sister of Benjamin Franklin—14 r.
- ☐ Wentworth—"Anna, Where Are You?"—16 r. AFB
- ☐ Williams—Elephant Bill—19 r. NIB
- ☐ Wright—Miracle At Kitty Hawk—20 r. APH
- ☐ Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine—July, August, September, 1952 APH
- ☐ Reader's Digest—July, August, September, 1952 APH
- ☐ Talking Book Topics—September, 1952 AFB

Dear Librarian: I would like to borrow the titles checked on this list:

READER'S NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE POSTAL UNIT NO.

(SEE REVERSE SIDE)

TALKING BOOK TOPICS

VOL. XVIII, NO. 4 DECEMBER, 1952

Issued Quarterly by the

AMERICAN FOUNDATION *for the* BLIND, Inc.

15 WEST 16th STREET • NEW YORK 11, N. Y.

Entered as second-class matter June 11, 1936, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of August 24, 1912

Talking Book Topics

VOL. XVIII, NO. 4 DECEMBER, 1952

The American Foundation for the Blind is a national agency the purpose of which is to promote increasingly and uncompromisingly the interests of all the blind throughout the United States, in close cooperation with all local organizations.

TALKING BOOK TOPICS is issued by the Foundation in inkprint, and in Talking Book form, four times a year—in March, June, September, and December. A printed copy is sent to all readers, free of charge, to aid them in requesting titles from their regular distributing library. There is a subscription price of $1 a year for the recorded edition.

If you wish to receive the magazine in recorded form, please tear out the coupon below, have it filled in, and mail it to the Talking Book Department of the American Foundation for the Blind, 15 West 16th Street, New York 11, New York, accompanied by your remittance.

Enclosed find the sum of $1.00 to cover one year's subscription for the recorded edition of TALKING BOOK TOPICS. Please send this magazine to:

SUBSCRIBER'S NAME .....

STREET ADDRESS .....

CITY .....

POSTAL UNIT NO. .....

STATE .....

THE WILLA CATHER LETTER:
An Apology

Some of our readers may recall that in our issue of June 1948 we published a letter from Willa Cather to Archibald MacLeish. It has been called to our attention by the Trustee under the will of Willa Sibert Cather that this letter was published contrary to the provisions of Miss Cather's will, which stipulates that none of her letters nor any part thereof may be published in any form whatsoever. The publication of this letter in TOPICS was therefore a violation of the terms of the will. TALKING BOOK TOPICS regrets this inadvertent error. We would be the last ones to knowingly publish anything contrary to the wishes of one of our great American writers.

RECORDED MAGAZINE

The American Foundation for the Blind is considering the possibility of producing, on 6-inch plastic discs with a total playing time of 24 minutes per disc, a recorded edition of one of the national weekly or monthly magazines. Plans are still very tentative, but of course we are anxious to learn what our readers think about the matter, and to find out what magazines they prefer. So far the only ones to be considered are U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT and FORTUNE—from which it will be seen that the idea is to make available a periodical dealing with current business and politics. There is nothing final about the type of magazine, however, and we hereby invite suggestions for titles. If you are interested please write to the Foundation, attention Editor, TALKING BOOK TOPICS, 15 West 16 Street, New York 11, N. Y., and tell what magazine you would prefer to have recorded in the event this plan catches on. It should be noted that at present this project is not to be considered

a legitimate service of the Library of Congress, and Foundation funds cannot provide a service of this type without charge. The use of the small records is intended to reduce costs so that the price to blind subscribers would be lower than if the material were recorded on conventional TALKING BOOK records. In writing, you might also give your views on what you think you would want to pay for a recorded magazine. Our hope is to produce it at a price comparable to the subscription price of the ink-print edition. Again—give us your opinion.

DON'T FAIL TO RETURN YOUR RECORDED "READER'S DIGEST"!

Several librarians have told us that TALKING BOOK readers sometimes keep their *Reader's Digest* longer than they are entitled to, and in a few cases don't return them to the library at all! TALKING BOOK TOPICS urges you to get them back and to get them back on their due date. After all, they are sent to listeners on a loan basis, and there is always someone else waiting to read a copy. Thank you!

NEW TALKING BOOKS

The following Talking Books, recently recorded for the Library of Congress, may now be borrowed from your regular distributing library.

AFB—American Foundation for the Blind, New York, N. Y.

APH—American Printing House for the Blind, Louisville, Kentucky.

FICTION

Appleby, John—BARBARY HOARD *(Coward-McCann, 1952)*—14 records—read by Milton Metz APH

A story of violent and exciting action in Algeria. A young English girl is kidnaped by a gang who will stop at nothing to find a certain hidden treasure. The girl is finally rescued, and the treasure saved for its rightful owner.

Brontë, Charlotte—JANE EYRE *(1847)*—35 records—read by Joanna Roos AFB

A re-recording of the Brontë classic. Jane Eyre, a young English girl, becomes governess to the ward of Edward Rochester. Rochester is blinded in attempting to rescue his insane wife from the fire she herself started. After the death of his wife Rochester marries Jane.

Costain, Thomas B.—THE SILVER CHALICE *(Doubleday, 1952)*—42 records—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

The story of Basil of Antioch, a talented young slave whose freedom was purchased that he might fashion the cup from which Christ was to drink at the last supper. Like Mr. Costain's other books, this one is full of vivid detail and exciting action.

Foote, Shelby—SHILOH *(Dial, 1952)*—8 records—read by Bud Abbott APH

The "hero" of this novel is a battle, bloody Shiloh, fought in April, 1862. The story is told through the eyes of men who were there, both Union and Confederate. The author has taken authentic accounts and woven them together so that the reader gets a comprehensive picture of one of the great battles in our history.

Forester, C. S.—LIEUTENANT HORNBLOWER *(Little, Brown, 1952)*—17 records—read by Burt Blackwell APH

The seventh novel in the saga of Horatio Hornblower, in which this famous fictional naval hero emerges from his apprenticeship as midshipman to assume the responsibilities thrown upon him by the war between Napoleon and Spain.

Gallico, Paul—TRIAL BY TERROR *(Knopf, 1952)*—15 records—read by William Gladden APH

An American reporter, arrested as a spy in a satellite country, is subjected by the communists to physical and psychological torture intended to make him confess to acts he never committed. He is saved by friends at the end of a thrilling story.

Guareschi, Giovanni—DON CAMILLO AND HIS FLOCK *(Pellegrini & Cudahy, 1952)*—12 records—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

One day Don Camillo, the village priest was in the church talking things over with Christ and said: "Lord, too many things in this world are out of kilter." "I don't see it that way," Christ answered. "Man may be out of kilter, but the rest of the universe works pretty well." In this new group of stories about Don Camillo and his adversary, Peppone, the Communist mayor, Don Camillo works long and hard to keep the proper balance between Man and the Lord's universe. And although we know that he is always successful, his methods make delightful reading.

Innes, Hammond—Air Bridge *(Knopf, 1951)*—19 records—read by Kenneth Meeker APH

An exciting story about the theft of a German airplane design by an Englishman. Murder, the Berlin airlift, and a deserted airstrip in England mark the high spots of this fast moving tale.

Kipling, Rudyard—"Captains Courageous" *(Doubleday, 1896)*—11 records—read by Tony Randall AFB

Kipling's famous story of the regeneration of a spoiled rich boy who falls off an Atlantic liner and is picked up by a Gloucester fishing boat.

Kossak, Zofia—The Covenant *(Roy, 1951)*—30 records—read by Burt Blackwell APH

The story of the patriarch Abraham retold with great attention to the details of everyday life in Biblical times.

London, Jack—The Call of the Wild, To Build A Fire, The Heathen, and The Strength of The Strong *(Macmillan, 1951)*—12 records—read by Jim Denver and William Lazar AFB

Jack London's famous story of the dog Buck, who is stolen from a California ranch and taken to the Klondike—plus three short stories.

O'Hara, Mary—The Son of Adam Wyngate *(McKay, 1952)*—32 records—read by Kenneth Meeker APH

Bartholomew Wyngate, a popular and able minister in the fashionable Brooklyn Heights section in the 1900's, suffers a breakdown when he learns of his wife's infidelities. The story deals with his fight to regain mental balance and the restoration of family harmony.

Reynolds, James—The Grand Wide Way *(Creative Age, 1951)*—19 records—read by Kenneth Meeker APH

A romantic novel about the sporting life led by the landed gentry of Ireland and of their loves and hates. It is a book unusually rich in characters.

Roberts, Kenneth—NORTHWEST PASSAGE (BOOK I)—*(Doubleday, 1936)*—21 records—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

A new recording of a book Mr. Scourby did in 1939. An historical novel of the French and Indian War centered about the famous Major Rogers of Rogers' Rangers.

Sabatini, Rafael—CAPTAIN BLOOD *(Houghton, 1924)*—21 records—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

The exciting adventures of Peter Blood. The scene is the Spanish Main in the 17th century. A re-recording. Done originally in 1938.

Sedges, John—BRIGHT PROCESSION *(John Day, 1952)*—15 records—read by Buckley Kozlow AFB

A cynical young business man, the son of a minister, is brought back to the good life by the influence of his father and a young woman.

Smith, Madeline Babcock—THE LEMON JELLY CAKE *(Little, Brown, 1952)*—10 records—read by Helen Shields AFB

In the summer of 1900 there came to a small Illinois town a stranger who stole both the heart of eleven-year old Helene and Mrs. Antha's pink angel cake. It was the same summer that Helene tried to make a love-match between Miss Rose, the Sunday School teacher, and Wilbur, who was busy inventing a clock that ran backwards; and when the preacher's wife ran away with the local barber. All of these and other adventures as reported by Helene give a nostalgic glimpse of small town life in America at the turn of the century.

Stover, Herbert E.—POWDER MISSION *(Dodd, Mead, 1951)*—17 records—read by George Barnes APH

A dramatic story of the American Revolution. A shipment of Spanish gold, sent north from New Orleans to buy supplies for Washington, is stolen. A lone American agent traces it over half a wild continent.

MYSTERY AND DETECTIVE

Collins, Wilkie—THE WOMAN IN WHITE *(1860)*—47 records—read by John Knight AFB

Written in 1860, this story remains one of the very best of all mysteries. The complicated plot, the sinister characters, and the eerie atmosphere will hold the reader to the surprising end. A new and unabridged recording.

Dodge, David—TO CATCH A THIEF *(Random, 1951)*—13 records—read by Milton Metz APH

John Robie, an American jewel thief, is sent by the French police to find the man who had been robbing the rich inhabitants of the Cote d'Azur. The pursuit will keep you on the edge of your chair to the last action-filled page.

Doyle, Sir Arthur Conan—ADVENTURES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES *(Harper, 1892)*—20 records—read by John Brewster AFB

There is still only one Sherlock Holmes. None of the fictional detectives created since the time of Conan Doyle can match this great original. The stories may be somewhat dated but they retain their unique flavor. Twelve adventures, including *The Red-Headed League*, *A Case of Identity*, and *The Speckled Band*. A re-recording of a title originally done by the Foundation in 1939.

Fair, A. A.—TOP OF THE HEAP *(Morrow, 1952)*—11 records—read by William Gladden APH

Fast and furious action on the part of Cool and Lam, the incredible detectives. A. A. Fair, the author of this one, is really Erle Stanley Gardner.

Tey, Josephine (pseudonym of Elizabeth Mackintosh)—THE DAUGHTER OF TIME *(Macmillan, 1952)*—10 records—read by Terry Hayes Sales APH

A Scotland Yard Inspector sees a portrait of Richard the Third and from his knowledge of faces concludes that the English king was not capable of the crimes attributed to him. By careful research he proves, to his own satisfaction at least, that Richard had been falsely accused by his successors.

WESTERN

Heckelmann, Charles N.—THE RAWHIDER *(Holt, 1952)*—13 records—read by Livingston Gilbert APH

Along the expanding frontier of the Dakota Territory, rugged Bill Horn earned his reputation as the best and toughest riverboat pilot from the headwaters of the Tennessee to the uncharted Missouri badlands. In the climactic engagement between two river packets on the Missouri, Horn and his implacable enemy, Jack Wade, fight to the finish in a bloody struggle.

Herbert, Arthur—FREEDOM RUN *(Rinehart, 1951)*—10 records—read by Lamar Crask APH

Adventure in the old West. The time is the late 1860's, just after we had bought Alaska from Russia. Russia considered she got a bad deal and in revenge tried to invade California. An American cavalry Major is the hero.

ANTHROPOLOGY

Oakes, Maud—BEYOND THE WINDY PLACE: Life in the Guatemalan Highlands *(Farrar, Straus, 1951)*—18 records—read by Terry Hayes Sales APH

Maud Oakes is an American ethnologist who went to Guatemala in search of a tribe of Mayan Indians who still practise the religious customs of their ancestors. Her book tells of her stay with them. Interesting reading about a colorful and faraway people.

BIOGRAPHY

Barry, Henry—I'LL BE SEEING YOU *(Knopf, 1952)*—7 records—read by William Lazar AFB

Henry Barry was blinded in combat. This is his own story of his comeback—the complicated physical and emotional adjustment he made so successfully, but only after a hard battle.

Crawford, Marion—ELIZABETH THE QUEEN: The Story of Britain's New Sovereign *(Prentice-Hall, 1952)*—7 records—read by Terry Hayes Sales APH

The life of Queen Elizabeth of England by the woman who was her

guide and friend for twenty years. This biography describes Elizabeth's life from the time she was a few years old to the time she became queen. Miss Crawford's book is thorough and full of authentic detail. It gives the reader a very intimate glimpse of the life of royalty.

de Mille, Agnes—DANCE TO THE PIPER *(Little, Brown, Atlantic, 1952)*—25 records—read by the Author and Sarah Burton AFB

The name of Agnes de Mille, creator of the ballet *Rodeo*, and choreographer of *Oklahoma* and *Carousel*, is known to millions of Americans. How she won success, not because of, but in a sense despite her famous name, is the theme of this candid autobiography.

Malone, Dumas—JEFFERSON AND THE RIGHTS OF MAN *(Little, Brown, 1951)*—36 records—read by Paul Clark APH

The second volume of Mr. Malone's projected four-volume work to be called *Jefferson and His Time*. It is the story of Jefferson's middle years: his ministry to France, his service as Secretary of State, and the beginning of his long struggle with Hamilton and the Federalists.

Pellegrini, Angelo—IMMIGRANT'S RETURN *(Macmillan, 1951)*—19 records—read by Burt Blackwell APH

The author came to this country thirty-six years ago from Italy. In this book he tells the story of his return. But in spite of the many glories of Italy, despite his happiness in meeting old friends, Mr. Pellegrini concludes that under no circumstances could he be persuaded to live there. He has known America, and no other land could ever be his home.

Vining, Elizabeth Gray—WINDOWS FOR THE CROWN PRINCE *(Lippincott, 1952)*—23 records—read by Mary Welch AFB

In 1946 Elizabeth Gray Vining—Philadelphia Quaker, graduate of Bryn Mawr College, writer of books for young people—was appointed by his Imperial Highness, the Emperor of Japan, to tutor the Crown Prince Akihito in English. This book is the story of the

four years Miss Vining held this unique position. "Nothing like it exists except 'Anna and the King of Siam'" says John Gunther of this book in the N. Y. TIMES BOOK REVIEW.

GEOGRAPHY

de Camp, L. Sprague and Willy Ley—LANDS BEYOND *(Rinehart, 1952)*—19 records—read by Kermit Murdock AFB

This book, to quote the authors, is a "tale of geographical legends, or, we might say, of subjective geography—the geographies that people of other times and places have believed in." Atlantis, El Dorado, Terra Australis, the route of Odysseus' travels, the lands of Sindbad the Sailor, even the lost tribes of Israel are explored in this expedition into the unknown.

Fergusson, Erna—NEW MEXICO: A Pageant of Three Peoples *(Knopf, 1951)*—22 records—read by William Gladden APH

A complete description of New Mexico—its people, its history, its geography, its scenery—written by a native of the state.

HISTORY

Kirk, Lydia—POSTMARKED MOSCOW *(Scribner's, 1952)*—20 records—read by Kay Parker AFB

Mrs. Kirk's husband, Admiral Alan G. Kirk, served as American Ambassador in Moscow from 1949 to 1952. Not content to be merely an official hostess, Mrs. Kirk led as active a life as was permitted an American woman in Russia, and in this always amusing, but thought-provoking book gives us a lively picture of life in Russia as lived both in the foreign embassies and among the Russians themselves.

Williams, T. Harry—LINCOLN AND HIS GENERALS *(Knopf, 1952)*—19 records—read by George Patterson APH

The fascinating story of Lincoln's search for a winning general, and of his own emergence as a master strategist and great commander-in-chief. Some of the generals studied are Sherman, Hooker, Meade, McClellan, and Grant.

NATURAL HISTORY

Krutch, Joseph Wood—THE DESERT YEAR *(Sloane, 1952)*—10 records—read by Paul Clark APH

The author, a nationally known editor, critic, biographer, and teacher, spent a year in the Southwest and wrote this book as a result. It is a series of more or less philosophic comments on climate, plants, animals, and scenery.

Ripley, Dillon—SEARCH FOR THE SPINY BABBLER: A Naturalist's Adventure in Nepal *(Houghton, Mifflin, 1952)*—17 records—read by Milton Metz APH

Mr. Ripley is an ornithologist whose business it is to study birds in all parts of the world. He and his party travelled 8,000 miles to mysterious Nepal on the chance that the Maharajah would permit them to explore parts of the country no white man had ever seen. They won their gamble. The result was the expedition he describes in this colorful book.

PHILOSOPHY AND ETHICS

Mumford, Lewis—THE CONDUCT OF LIFE *(Harcourt, Brace, 1951)*—25 records—read by George Barnes APH

Lewis Mumford clarifies the main issues of our day by bringing to bear on them a unified method of thinking and an organic system of values. His main purpose, which is worked out in the last chapter, is to give the individual, in terms of every day practice, the answer to the question: What shall I do to be saved? *The Conduct of Life* is the final volume of Mumford's philosophy as expounded in three previous books—*Technics and Civilization, The Culture of Cities,* and *The Condition of Man.*

PSYCHOLOGY AND MEDICINE

English, O. Spurgeon, M.D., *and* Constance J. Foster—FATHERS ARE PARENTS, TOO *(Putnam, 1951)*—17 records—read by Lamar Crask APH

Subtitled "A Constructive Guide to Successful Fatherhood" this

book, according to *Parents' Magazine*, "gives sound counsel and guidance which, if applied and practiced, will enable fathers to enjoy the distinctive opportunities and satisfactions reserved for fatherhood. All the important problems with which fathers are confronted . . . are covered. The presentation is made in readily understandable language and fully utilizes the profound insights provided by modern, dynamic psychiatry."

Leighton, Isabel (*ed.*)—THE PEOPLE IN YOUR LIFE *(Knopf, 1951)*—15 records—read by Kermit Murdock AFB

Ten leading authorities in the fields of psychiatry and personal relations examine 10 relationships that at some time play an important part in every life. Husband-wife, parent-child, employer-employee, citizen-community, and other relationships are thoughtfully evaluated in this book. This is no automatic blueprint for happiness —but a discussion of the common relationships of life which will give genuine help.

RELIGION

Oursler, Fulton—THE GREATEST BOOK EVER WRITTEN *(Doubleday, 1951)*—29 records—read by Lamar Crask APH

Fulton Oursler continues his retelling of the Bible story begun in *The Greatest Story Ever Told.* This new book is the story of the Old Testament, recapturing the beauty of antiquity while remaining absolutely faithful to the Scriptures.

Williams, Albert N.—THE BOOK BY MY SIDE *(Duell, Sloan, 1951)*—23 records—read by Walter Gerard APH

A guide to the Bible which gathers and simplifies the learning of many scholars. In itself it is the most exciting of reading adventures, telling how the Biblical books came into being, and what they contain. A book that will give a new understanding of the Bible.

SOCIAL SCIENCES

Busch, Francis X.—GUILTY OR NOT GUILTY? *(Bobbs, Merrill, 1952)*—18 records—read by Milton Metz APH

A leading American trial lawyer reviews the facts in four famous criminal cases and describes in great detail the actual trials. The cases are Leo Frank—for the murder of Mary Phagan; D. C. Stephenson, for the murder of Madge Oberholtzer; Samuel Insull, for use of the mails to defraud; and Alger Hiss, for perjury.

TRAVEL AND ADVENTURE

Buchan, Laura *and* Jerry Allen—HEARTH IN THE SNOW *(Funk, 1952)*—15 records—read by Mrs. Dale Carter APH

Laura Buchan and her husband went to Bristol Village, Alaska, as teacher and radio operator. It was an entirely new world to them—and they were something new to the natives. This book tells of how the Buchans established themselves by their interest in their work and their love of the people they worked for. The authors are well able to convey the feeling of life in the remote Arctic, and to depict the wonderful native peoples whom the Buchans lived with.

Helmericks, Constance *and* Harmon—THE FLIGHT OF THE ARCTIC TERN *(Little, Brown, 1952)*—24 records—read by Buckley Kozlow AFB

The *Arctic Tern* was the name of the plane in which the authors, seasoned arctic travellers, explored vast tracts of uncharted Alaska. The Helmericks know this country well and effectively describe its strange splendor. Having lived there in a wilderness cabin they built themselves, they know the country and the people intimately.

Jaques, Florence Page—AS FAR AS THE YUKON *(Harper, 1951)*—12 records—read by Terry Hayes Sales APH

Florence Jaques and her husband Francis Jaques, the artist, are well known to readers of nature books. This couple has traveled a great deal in the West and Northwest and written several books

about their wanderings. In *As Far As The Yukon* they cover Alaska, British Columbia, Manitoba, and Ontario, as well as a good deal of the United States. Their chief interest is in wild plants and animals and they are expert in observing and describing them.

Mowat, Farley—People of the Deer *(Little, Brown, 1952)*—21 records—read by Walter Gerard APH

The *People of the Deer* are a tribe of Eskimos living to the northwest of Hudson Bay. Fifty years ago they numbered 2,000 healthy, prosperous people; today there are barely forty of them left. Mr. Mowat, who has lived with them, tells the story of their downfall. The intrusion of the white man, he says, has been responsible for their degeneration and for the decimation of the great caribou herds upon which they lived. This book is an intensely interesting account of a brave people and of the strange and terrible land in which they live.

Payne, Robert—Journey to Persia *(Dutton, 1952)*—15 records—read by Alexander Scourby AFB

This book describes a journey to Persia undertaken in the spring of 1949 by the Asia Institute of New York. "We had no axes to grind," says the author, "we were aware that Persian art has much to contribute to the West, and it was felt that as many people as possible should be able to see the great contributions of Persia to the western world." And Mr. Payne attempts to share with the reader these contributions, not by means of chronicled information, but through a series of random sketches, word pictures of his visits to Shiraz, Persepolis, Teheran, and the other fabled cities of this colorful land.

Price, Willard—I Cannot Rest From Travel *(Day, 1951)*—22 records—read by William Gladden APH

Willard Price traveled through seventy countries and had adventures in every one of them. His experiences include hunting tigers, climbing a volcano, exploring the Amazon, sailing the Grand Canal of China, and capturing wild animals alive in the jungles of Brazil.

Strode, Hudson—DENMARK IS A LOVELY LAND *(Harcourt, Brace, 1951)*—18 records—read by Walter Gerard APH

The title of this book is taken from the first line of the Danish national anthem. Hudson Strode, an experienced traveller and writer on foreign lands, says, "To visit Denmark . . . in this material age of dubious values and brassy mediocrity is something like coming upon a watered garden in an arid world." This book is an excellent description of a beautiful country.

Van der Post, Laurens—VENTURE TO THE INTERIOR *(Morrow, 1951)*—15 records—read by Milton Metz APH

The author was sent by the British government to Central Africa with a view to finding new food sources for England's failing economy. His book is an account of this mission—a vivid adventure story, with interesting accounts of strange peoples and mysterious lands.

Zahl, Paul A.—FLAMINGO HUNT *(Bobbs, Merrill, 1952)*—11 records—read by Tony Randall AFB

A scientist's account of his adventurous search in remote West Indian waters for the nesting ground of the flamingo. A picture of a world of sea and sun and salty marshes, untouched by civilization, and of the exotic marine life of the region.

SPECIAL RELEASES

The following religious recordings may be obtained from the Lutheran Library for the Blind, 210 Broadway, St. Louis, Missouri.

HEAVEN by George Beiderwieden—read by Paul Clark—2 records APH

LIVING FOR CHRIST by Walter A. Maier—read by the author —4 records APH

Two more:

BIBLE TEACHINGS by Joseph Stump—read by John Engebretsen—14 records APH

EYES OF UNDERSTANDING by Frieda R. Nilsen—read by Dorothy Belgum—8 records APH

are available from Christian Lending Library, 15 Sixth Avenue, NE, Faribault, Minnesota.

CHECK THE TITLES YOU WISH TO BORROW, DETACH THE LIST AND MAIL IT TO YOUR TALKING BOOK LIBRARY—**NOT TO THE FOUNDATION.**

FOR ADDITIONAL TITLES CONSULT YOUR CATALOGUE OF TALKING BOOKS FOR THE BLIND 1934-1948, AND SUPPLEMENT NO. 1, 1948-1950

Compiled by Division for the Blind
Library of Congress

- ☐ Appleby—Barbary Hoard—14 r. APH
- ☐ Barry—I'll Be Seeing You—7 r. AFB
- ☐ Brontë—Jane Eyre—35 r. AFB
- ☐ Buchan *and* Allen—Hearth in the Snow—15 r. APH
- ☐ Busch—Guilty or Not Guilty?—18 r. APH
- ☐ Collins—The Woman in White—47 r. AFB
- ☐ Costain—The Silver Chalice—42 r. AFB
- ☐ Crawford—Elizabeth the Queen: The Story of Britain's New Sovereign—7 r. APH
- ☐ de Camp and Ley—Lands Beyond—19 r. AFB
- ☐ de Mille—Dance to the Piper—25 r. AFB
- ☐ Dodge—To Catch A Thief—13 r. APH
- ☐ Doyle—Adventures of Sherlock Holmes—20 r. AFB
- ☐ English *and* Foster—Fathers Are Parents, Too—17 r. APH
- ☐ Fair—Top of the Heap—11 r. APH
- ☐ Fergusson—New Mexico: A Pageant of Three Peoples—22 r. APH
- ☐ Foote—Shiloh—8 r. APH
- ☐ Forester—Lieutenant Hornblower—17 r. APH
- ☐ Gallico—Trial By Terror—15 r. APH
- ☐ Guareschi—Don Camillo and His Flock—12 r. AFB
- ☐ Heckelmann—The Rawhider—13 r. APH
- ☐ Helmericks—The Flight of the Arctic Tern—24 r. AFB
- ☐ Herbert—Freedom Run—10 r. APH
- ☐ Innes—Air Bridge—19 r. APH
- ☐ Jaques—As Far As The Yukon—12 r. APH
- ☐ Kipling—"Captains Courageous"—11 r. AFB
- ☐ Kirk—Postmarked Moscow—20 r. AFB
- ☐ Kossak—The Covenant—30 r. APH
- ☐ Krutch—The Desert Year—10 r. APH
- ☐ Leighton—The People in Your Life—15 r. AFB
- ☐ London—The Call of the Wild and Other Stories—12 r. AFB
- ☐ Malone—Jefferson and The Rights of Man—36 r. APH
- ☐ Mowat—People of the Deer—21 r. APH
- ☐ Mumford—The Conduct of Life—25 r. APH
- ☐ Oakes—Beyond the Windy Place: Life in the Guatemalan Highlands—18 r. APH
- ☐ O'Hara—The Son of Adam Wyngate—32 r. APH

- ☐ Oursler—The Greatest Book Ever Written—29 r. APH
- ☐ Payne—Journey to Persia—15 r. AFB
- ☐ Pellegrini—Immigrant's Return—19 r. APH
- ☐ Price—I Cannot Rest From Travel—22 r. APH
- ☐ Reynolds—The Grand Wide Way—19 r. APH
- ☐ Ripley—Search for the Spiny Babbler—17 r. APH
- ☐ Roberts—Northwest Passage (Book I)—21 r. AFB
- ☐ Sabatini—Captain Blood—21 r. AFB
- ☐ Sedges—Bright Procession—15 r. AFB
- ☐ Smith—The Lemon Jelly Cake—10 r. AFB
- ☐ Stover—Powder Mission—17 r. APH
- ☐ Strode—Denmark Is A Lovely Land—18 r. APH
- ☐ Tey—The Daughter of Time—10 r. APH
- ☐ Van der Post—Venture to the Interior—15 r. APH
- ☐ Vining—Windows for the Crown Prince—23 r. AFB
- ☐ Williams, A.—The Book By My Side—23 r. APH
- ☐ Williams, T.—Lincoln and His Generals—19 r. APH
- ☐ Zahl—Flamingo Hunt—11 r. AFB
- ☐ Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine—October, November, December 1952 APH
- ☐ Reader's Digest—October, November, December 1952 APH
- ☐ Talking Book Topics—December 1952 AFB

Dear Librarian: I would like to borrow the titles checked on this list:

READER'S NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE POSTAL UNIT NO.

(SEE REVERSE SIDE)

HV1571 c.1
T

TALKING BOOK TOPICS

Vol. XIV-XVIII
(1948-1952)

Date Due

HV1571 c.1
T

TALKING BOOK TOPICS

Vol. XIV-XVIII (1948-1952)

DATE	ISSUED TO

AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR THE BLIND
15 WEST 16th STREET
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10011